

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND  
China Overland Trade Report.

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## CONTENTS.

|                                                    | PAGE |
|----------------------------------------------------|------|
| Far Eastern News .....                             | 69   |
| Leading Articles:—                                 |      |
| Consular Jurisdiction in Korea .....               | 70   |
| The Hinterland of Hongkong .....                   | 71   |
| China and the Gold Standard .....                  | 71   |
| Whampoa Redivivus .....                            | 72   |
| Russia and the Yangtze Region .....                | 72   |
| Random Reflections .....                           | 73   |
| Hongkong News .....                                | 73   |
| Hongkong University .....                          | 74   |
| Sanitary Board .....                               | 74   |
| Presentation to Captain and Mrs. F. A. Brown ..... | 75   |
| The Truth About the Pratas .....                   | 76   |
| Free Towing .....                                  | 76   |
| Italian Convent .....                              | 77   |
| Supreme Court .....                                | 78   |
| Alleged Infringement of Trade-Marks .....          | 79   |
| Building Collapse in Queen's Road Central .....    | 79   |
| A New Solicitor .....                              | 79   |
| Chinese Air-Ships .....                            | 79   |
| Mr. Shelton Hooper Robbed .....                    | 80   |
| An Interesting Story .....                         | 80   |
| Yachtsmen Encounter a Derelict .....               | 80   |
| Typhoon Alarms .....                               | 80   |
| Quarantine on Vessels from Hongkong .....          | 80   |
| Opium Cultivation in Yunnan .....                  | 80   |
| Manila and Cholera .....                           | 80   |
| Shipping Notes .....                               | 81   |
| Seaworthy or Unseaworthy .....                     | 81   |
| Foreign Universities in China .....                | 81   |
| Dr. Okada on Chinese Code .....                    | 81   |
| Automobiles in China and Japan .....               | 81   |
| Consular Reports .....                             | 82   |
| Correspondence:—                                   |      |
| The Typhoon Signal at Macao .....                  | 83   |
| The New Opium Evil .....                           | 83   |
| Marriage of Miss Phyllis Dodwell .....             | 83   |
| Chinese Naval Construction .....                   | 83   |
| Trade in Shantung .....                            | 83   |
| The Hankow-Szechuan Railway .....                  | 83   |
| Far Eastern Question in Parliament .....           | 84   |
| The Imperial Maritime Customs .....                | 84   |
| Foreigner Kidnapped .....                          | 84   |
| A Costly American Holiday .....                    | 84   |
| Far Eastern Telegrams .....                        | 84   |
| Japanese Capital Invested in China .....           | 84   |
| Commercial .....                                   | 85   |
| Shipping .....                                     | 88   |

## BIRTH.

On July 22nd, at "Goodwood" No. 5, Babington Path, Hongkong, the wife of W. H. DONALD, a daughter.

## Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.  
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## ARRIVAL OF MAIL.

The English Mail of the 25th ultimo and the parcel mails closed in London for despatch by the all sea route on the 16th June, and for despatch overland on the 23rd June arrived per s.s. *Delhi* on the 21st inst.

## FAR EASTERN NEWS.

Captain T. C. Leah, R. G. A., has been appointed for duty with the R. G. A. detachment, Legation Guard, Peking.

A feeble but somewhat prolonged earth-quake shock was experienced in Yokohama at one minute to one o'clock on the morning of July 8th.

The *Echo de Paris* says it is stated at the Ministry of the Colonies that M. Millies-Lacroix, the Minister, intends to visit Indo-China.

The directors of the Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd., have declared an interim dividend of 15/0 per share for the half year ended June 30, 1909.

The Planters Association at Davao in the Philippines have asked for troops to be stationed there and American officers in the Moro district favour the request.

The Directors of the Great Northern Telegraph Company have declared an interim dividend of 5s. per share, being at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, for the half-year.

The Directors of the Eastern Extension Australasia and China Telegraph Company have declared an interim dividend for the quarter ended March 31 of 2s. 6d. per share, tax free.

A swarm of locusts descended upon Manila last Thursday. They swept in their millions over the various districts, particularly intramuros and Bagumbayan. They passed in about an hour, and did no damage.

Mr. C. W. Fairbanks, ex Vice-President of the United States, and Mrs. Fairbanks have been visiting Peitaiho. They go on from there to Peking and will probably return to Peitaiho to "spend some little time resting and gathering information regarding matters Chinese."

At a sale of rare British stamps in London recently the following prices were realised:—Hongkong, 1882, c.10; blue-green, unused copy, £3; 1897, \$1 on \$2, sage green, without Chinese surcharge, Mint state, £5; and \$ on \$2, sea green, variety with the sloping portion of the Chinese surcharge omitted, £3 3s.

Some of the English illustrated papers by the latest mail contain a reproduction of a photograph taken during Admiral Lambton's recent visit to Japan showing the Admiral as the central figure in a group of Japanese ladies. "Admiral Lambton and the Anglo-Japanese Alliance" is the legend at the bottom of the picture.

The Prince Regent and the Grand Council have decided to issue instructions to the Viceroy and Governors to superintend the election by the Provincial Councils of a number of gentlemen to serve as probationary members of the Senate on the 1st of the 10th moon, and to order the successful candidates to be all in Peking a month later.

In consequence of the disturbances that have often been caused by the depreciation of the copper cents and the discovery that certain unprincipled merchants have been in the habit of importing copper from abroad to make counterfeit coins, the Shanghai Taotai has written to the Commissioner of Customs to prohibit the importation of copper.

A Tokyo paper states that the girls of the capital "annually consume some ¥50,000 of egg-capsules of the whelk which are mostly produced in the Island Sea and Coast of Chiba." A silkworm factory in Nagano contemplates offering egg capsules for chewing to the factory girls as a means of keeping them from idleness in working hours.

In consequence of the steadily increasing development the Directors of the East Asiatic Company at Copenhagen are issuing a new 5 per cent. loan of 5,000,000 kr. through the chief bank at Copenhagen. The subscription rate is 99½ per cent. The company is working with a capital of 15,000,000 kr., reserves of 3,750,000 kr., and a debenture loan of 4,250,000 kr.

According to the *Manila Cablenews-American* the yield of gold in the Philippines was over 10,000 ounces for the year 1908.

Advices have been received at Shanghai which indicate that there is danger of the Yangtze-kiang overflowing its banks and flooding the Settlements at Hankow. Local firms have been asked the rates for flood risks, but there is a reluctance to accept such business. The level of the river a week ago was 44 ft. 9 in. and the water was still; the godowns are 49 ft. above sea level.

H. E. Tang Shao-yi has presented two Memorials to the Throne; one on Chinese Diplomacy and the other on Currency. In the first he says that from what he has seen of the political situation of the foreign countries it is expedient for China to have a fixed foreign policy. In the second he urges that China must have a uniform currency; otherwise unforeseen international complications are sure to arise.

Considerable alarm is felt in some quarters in the Philippines over the fact that Hawaiian agents are in the Islands engaging labourers for the sugar plantations about Honolulu. The fear is expressed that this levy upon the already scant supply of labour in the islands will be sorely felt in the districts where workers are most needed. Doubtless the drain will pinch in some sections if the Hawaiian agents succeeded in obtaining the 1,000 per month they are represented as desiring.

The *Japan Gazette* states that on certain dates this month performances will be given at the Hongo Theatre, Tokyo, by an old man, sixty-seven years of age, named Genshiichi Katada, who claims to have been endowed with the art of magic power from a "sannin" (imaginary being supposed to possess mystic power) in the solitude of the mountainous district in Miyagi Prefecture. The principal performances will, says the Tokyo Press, consist of the striking of a large bell with his head, walking over a bed of fire and the blade of a sword, bathing in boiling water, and other miraculous feats.

The new chief of the London Fire Brigade, in succession to Captain Hamilton, will be Commander Cowper, of H.M.S. *Spartiate*, if the London Council adopt the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee. Commander Barlton Valentine de Mornay Cowper, who is forty-four years of age, has had twenty-nine years' continuous service on board men-of-war. He commanded the *Plover* during the rebellion in the Southern Philippines in 1899, and for his work received the thanks of Admiral Dewey and of the American Government. He was in command of the *Plover* during the Boxer rising, and made a successful expedition against Chinese pirates in 1900.

Suspicion having been aroused that the Chinese murderer of General Franz Sigel's grand-daughter in New York had escaped to Japan, the Yokohama harbour police instituted searches for the probable culprit on board the *China* and *Minnesota*, which arrived there from America on the 6th and 7th respectively, but found no suspicious character among the passengers. It is suspected by the *Mainichi Dempo* that one of two Chinese passengers who committed suicide by jumping overboard from one of the vessels during the voyage, was the murderer in question. So far as the *Japan Gazette* knows, there is absolutely no ground for this ingenious suspicion.



The balance sheet and profit and loss account of the Nederlandsche Handel-Maatschappij (Netherlands Trading Society) for the year 31st ended December last show that the net profits for the year amount to £344,269, out of which, after providing for the statutory reserve to the extent of £31,072, a dividend of eight per cent. has been declared.

The British Consul at Tangyueh writes in his annual report:—The British-American Tobacco Company, with methods of advertisement which bid fair to entirely capture the local cigarette market, have recently sent two travelling agents through the district. They have decorated towns and villages with gaily-coloured Chinese posters, stirred the curiosity of the people by performances on the gramophone, and astonished them by the distribution of the free samples. They appear to have realised that strenuous measures are necessary in order to break through the conservative scruples of the natives, but they have also illustrated the truth that the Chinese, when once convinced of good value at a reasonable price, have the sound business instinct which will adapt any new commodity to their daily life.

One of the largest irrigation projects that is being undertaken by the Bureau of Public Works in the Philippines has recently been inspected by Chief Irrigation Engineer Kirkpatrick. It is the construction of an irrigation system in Norzagaray for the irrigation of over 25,000 hectares of rice lands in Bulacan province. The estimated cost of the entire project, should the present plans be adhered to, will be about P.1,200,000. The water for the projected system will be drawn from the Angat river above the town of Norzagaray. The inspections made have shown that the scheme to irrigate the vast area and treble the present output of rice is a feasible one, and it is considered by far the most important one that has yet been prepared, and in all probability the largest that will ever be undertaken in any one province. Engineers of the irrigation division are now surveying the entire tract of land it is proposed to irrigate and will report on the result of their labour next month.

Dr. F. Wisner, formerly President of the Canton Christian College, in an article in the *North American Review* tells the following story of Yuan Shi Kai—Sent to Shantung as Governor in 1900, to deal with the Boxers, he received a delegation from them, and listened patiently to their schemes for clearing out the foreign devil. They were confident that they could do this, since "by the secret magic of their order all the followers were made invulnerable." He honoured the delegation with an invitation to dine in company with some of the leading gentry of the place. After dinner he invited these men to explain their methods fully to the assembled guests. Then he adjourned to the outer court. "Now, gentlemen," said he, "we will put this matter to a practical test." The Boxers found themselves suddenly confronted by a squad of soldiers. It was in vain they protested. The word of command was given, and the muskets disposed at a single discharge of the claims of the impostors, and from that moment the new Governor had the Boxer movement by the throat in his province.

A telegram has been received by the Governor of the Straits Settlements, intimating that the Anglo-Siamese Treaty was duly ratified in London on Friday, the 9th inst., that being the last day of the period within which the formal confirmation of the arrangement was fixed to take place. All the arrangements in connection with the taking over of Protectorates in the States of Tringganu, Kelantan, and Kedah will now proceed. The Governor and staff have left Singapore for Tringganu and will meet the Sultans of that State and of Kelantan. He will proceed to Kedah to take over sometime next month. Meantime the officers who have been chosen as advisers to the new States are preparing to take up their duties. Mr. J. S. Mason has arrived in Singapore en route for Kelantan. Mr. W. Conlay is proceeding to Tringganu, and Mr. W. G. Maxwell will be in Kedah sometime before the visit of the Governor to that State. There is happily, says the *Straits Times*, every indication that the Protectorates will be assumed under the most favourable conditions.

## CONSULAR JURISDICTION IN KOREA.

(Daily Press, July 19th.)

In the Annual Report for 1907 on Reforms and Progress in Korea, compiled by the Japanese Residency-General at Seoul, it is affirmed that "it has been the unbroken policy of Japan to open 'the Hermit Kingdom' to the world, to establish terms of neighbourly friendship with the peninsular nation, to strengthen the Korean Imperial House, and to maintain the independence of the country." The Report tells us that Japan's endeavour to maintain Korea's independence led to the war with China; and that Japan was again compelled to engage in a costly war with Russia "largely on account of Korean affairs." All this is very naïve, but it would be sheer humbug to suggest that Korean interests were the paramount consideration; the interests that were paramount were, of course, those of Japan. It was recognised as vital to her existence as a nation that Korea should not come under the domination of any other foreign Power, and so Japan twice went to war to prevent that eventuality. In the words of PRINCE ITO, "the identity of Korean and Japanese interests in Korea will not permit Japan to leave Korea to the care of any other foreign country. She must assume the charge herself." What identity of interests there is between the two countries is not very obvious, but it is plain to everyone that it is necessary for strategical and other reasons that Korea should virtually, if not in name, form part of the Empire of Japan. Japan, it is true, has definitively guaranteed the "independence and territorial integrity of the Korean Empire", but when we see the Defences and the Judiciary of Korea, as well as the Posts and Telegraphs, given over to the absolute control of Japan, it appears to be a curious kind of "independence" that Korea is permitted to enjoy. The Agreement announced in Tokyo last week transferring to Japan the control of the Korean Judiciary, as well as the military forces, is but the formal declaration of what is already *un fait accompli*. Japanese subjects for sometime past have held numerous appointments in the Korean Courts which have been established or remodelled by the Japanese. In the Court of Cassation there is a Japanese chief justice, a chief procurator, two judges and five clerks; in each of the three Courts of Appeal there is a Japanese chief justice, two judges, a chief procurator, an assistant procurator, and five clerks; the eight Local Courts have Japanese subjects filling the positions of chief justice and senior procurator, and there are besides thirty-two Japanese judges and eighty clerks attached to these Local Courts, while a Japanese judge and a Japanese clerk are attached to each District Court in Korea. All this is provided for in previous Agreements, and we conclude that the new Agreement is designed to accelerate the reform of the judicial procedure chiefly for the purpose of getting rid of the extra-territorial jurisdiction of other Powers in Korea as speedily as possible. Our Tokyo correspondent in a telegram a few days ago mentioned that the Japanese Press attached considerable importance to the Agreement on this account. It is very evident that this object has been kept well in view by the Residency-General at Seoul, for in the Report from which we have already quoted, a couple of pages are devoted to a reference to the subject of Consular Jurisdiction, it being mentioned among other things that what with the improved methods of government, central and local, which are

gradually taking root throughout the country, and what with modern law courts with competent Japanese judges and procurators, the importance of maintaining consular jurisdiction "has thus greatly diminished, and it is now rather the case that certain inconveniences resulting from its continuance are becoming palpable." Possibly this is illustrated by a difficulty at present engaging attention in Korea. Three new taxes have been decided upon—a tax on house property, a tax on tobacco, and a tax on *saké*. It was apparently the intention of the authorities to levy them on foreigners and natives alike. The Consuls had a conference on the subject, and we gather from the reports in the Japanese papers that while they claim for their nationals exemption from taxation within the limits of the Treaty ports they are not prepared to claim exemption for those residing beyond those limits. It is interesting to observe that the Japanese residents in Korea, who constitute the largest body of foreigners, are offering the strongest opposition to the taxes, and claiming exemption as an extraterritorial privilege, while they and many other foreigners are completely ignoring all the restrictions as to residence and trade which the Treaties impose. Here, then, we have an illustration of the inconvenience of extra-territorial jurisdiction. There are probably as many foreigners outside as within the limits of the Treaty ports of Korea. We find it stated in the Report to which allusion has already been made that "many missionaries, some of them helping to maintain schools and hospitals, are residing in towns and villages in the interior quite outside Treaty limits; many hundreds of miners—Americans, Chinese and Japanese—are engaging in agriculture in the interior of the country." There can be no doubt that all this is very inconvenient in a country where the Powers claim extraterritorial jurisdiction. All the Powers in their Treaties with Korea, however, have given the promise to renounce extraterritorial jurisdiction when the laws and judicial procedure of the country shall be held to justify the step. Hence we may expect to learn in due course that the arrangement whereby Japan takes the judiciary out of Korean hands has been prompted by the wish to put an end to the system of extraterritorial jurisdiction at the earliest possible date in view of the difficulties and inconveniences which recent events have suggested are likely to constantly arise in the future so long as the system is maintained. Presumably the men as well as the machinery in the judicial administration in Korea will for many years to come be Japanese. The Resident-General has now become much more than an adviser to the Korean Government: he is gradually acquiring the powers of a Viceroy. We are not complaining of this. It has long been recognised as inevitable that Korea should pass completely under the domination of a foreign Power, and the absorption of the peninsula by Japan is undoubtedly the best solution of the problem in the interests of the peace of the world. So long as the "open door" is maintained the Powers are not likely to offer any objection to the recent development of Japanese policy.

The honesty of Yuan Shih-kai is now assured. It is reported that H. E. Na Tung has telegraphically memorialized the Throne that from enquiries made among the officials he finds there has been no misappropriation of the public monies by Yuan Shih-kai or Yang Shih-kiang, but that the accounts of the Chihli Viceroyalty are in a most confused state and are being duly investigated.



## THE HINTERLAND OF HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 20th July.)

In a brief report of the speech which LORD CREWE, Secretary of State for the Colonies, delivered at the annual dinner of the Corona Club, in London last month, occurs the following paragraph:—"They found the Hinterland of Hongkong eager to extend its sphere of industrial operations by the great railway movement which was taking place in China, the ultimate results of which must be to bring the civilisation of the West into the heart of that great mysterious Empire." The New Territory ceded by what is known as the Kowloon Extension Agreement of 1898 is sometimes referred to as "the Hinterland of Hongkong" but the Hinterland to which LORD CREWE refers is evidently a territory of much greater area,—nothing less, in fact, than the southern provinces of China which are to be tapped by the great trunk railway from Hankow to Canton. As regards that part of the Hinterland of Hongkong known as the New Territory, or Kowloon Extension, an area of about 280 square miles only, it cannot be said that much eagerness is yet being shown "to extend its sphere of industrial enterprise." At least, one hears very little of it; but in the older portion of the Colony as well as in the Canton district there certainly are signs of growing eagerness to extend the sphere of industrial operations, and the sooner the New Territory is brought within this sphere the better for the Colony as a whole. Three or four years ago Sir MARTHEW NATHAN in one of his Budget speeches impressed upon the Colony the importance of the maintenance of existing industries and the creation of new ones. His EXCELLENCY pointed out that with the increase of Dock accommodation in the Far East and the construction of railways to the Treaty Ports, this Colony could not always hope to maintain its past trade preponderance, and he expressed the conviction that if it is to advance at the rate at which it had hitherto advanced it would have to take full advantage for industrial purposes of "the nearly inexhaustible supply of cheap labour that can be attracted to it and of the convenient sites for carrying on manufacturing businesses which exist in the New Territories." The only development of this kind down to the present that has taken place in this territory is a mining enterprise, but since it was announced in the Legislative Council two years ago that it was apparently advancing beyond the prospecting stage, nothing has happened to again bring the enterprise prominently to the public notice. In addition to this mining enterprise there is another Chinese venture on the north shore of Mirs Bay, where silver and lead are being mined. We have heard recent rumours also of the discovery of gold in the New Territory, but whether it exists in paying quantities has yet to be determined. In Old Kowloon we have seen the commencement and unfortunately the speedy extinction of the flour milling industry, and the only other new industry on a large scale that has since been started is the brewing industry. Probably the mention of this will recall to some readers the reference of the cynical SIDNEY SMITH to there being no two ideas more inseparable than Beer and Britannia. "What event," he asked, "is there more awfully important to an English Colony than the erection of its first brew-house?" It is a long time ago that the first brewery was started in Hongkong and perhaps the initial attempt to establish this industry was considered more "awfully important" than the subsequent attempts.

Certainly there has been no flourish of trumpets about the erection of the latest big brewery at Laichikok which started operations a few months ago. A large amount of capital has evidently been put into the venture, and in the interests of the development of the Colony as a manufacturing and industrial centre we wish the new Brewery better luck than its three or four predecessors in the Colony experienced. Several manufacturing industries on a smaller scale employing the most modern machinery are contemplated by enterprising Chinese in the Colony: while in the neighbourhood of Canton enterprises of considerable importance are developing, one of the latest being the manufacture of fabrics from ramie. Perhaps the creation of new industries in the New Territory is not to be expected until the railway is open, but as the signs of the times point to a great development of manufacturing industries in China, we think the shipping and railway facilities which this Colony will afford for the distribution of produce and manufactures encourages a belief in the future of the Colony as a manufacturing and industrial centre.

## CHINA AND THE GOLD STANDARD.

(Daily Press, July 21st.)

It can hardly be said that as yet there is much sign of China spontaneously adopting an imperial standard gold currency. China probably has much to learn beforehand and first of all has to be convinced that there would be any advantage accruing to her in changing the standard from silver to gold. Accepting as a fact this dislike of the country at large to altering its conceptions of what actually constitutes money, we can begin to comprehend the very decided preference shown by many statesmen who have, so far as their lights went, carefully studied the monetary question, for what is practically the dollar over the tael. Though for matters of current account for thousands of years the tael has been the accepted standard, for matters of actual currency and general convenience for the couple of hundred years since it was first introduced, the dollar has always been the coin best known to the Chinese; and is intimately associated in every Chinaman's mind, from the Great Wall to the frontier of Tongking, with his idea of money as a tangible form of currency. Although the Chinese have been for some thousands of years accustomed to reduce everything to a decimal system, whether land, weights and measures, or money, the Chinese have curiously never displayed in so marked a degree as the purists of Europe what may be called the superstition of decimalism. To the swan-pan using Chinese the multiplication or division by seventy-two constitutes no bugbear: he hardly notices the operation, which he performs perhaps a thousand times a day; with him it is merely instinct, and calls for no mental exertion whatever. But if the money of account and the money of use be thus different, the calculation is nothing compared with the likewise different standard of copper money, which to a greater extent than the difference of dollar and tael affects his daily life in a far more intimate manner than the other.

From reasons of convenience no silver coin much over 400 grains troy in weight has ever succeeded in becoming current to any large extent. Even the British Crown weighing about 436½ grains never became popular, the public always preferring the more nimble half-crown. The Dollar,

weighing from 492 to 417.707 grains troy, is the largest and heaviest coin which has ever been dominant in the currency of the world. The Chinese Tael if converted into a coin would weigh at least 580 grains troy, or more at the proposed alloy of 900 fine, and would certainly be unpopular with a people who eagerly welcomed the old Carolus Dollar of 417.7 grains. The objections to the tael coin proceeds, then, from very real and tangible grounds, such as the Chinaman is especially from his daily experience capable of judging correctly, and we see that his practical experience leads him to the same conclusion as his equally practical brother, the user of the coin in Europe. But equally from sentimental ideas the tael is hardly likely to be adopted with avidity as a satisfactory standard by any considerable section of the Chinese. True, the weight itself has enjoyed a life seldom afforded in the annals of any country to a currency, and still remains as at first in the neighbourhood of 580 grains; and this is due to the fact that the Government had never had anything to say to it. The English "pound" of silver, at one time the equivalent of the weight, has, we all know, depreciated more than two-thirds to 1746 grains, and this is nothing to the old French livre, which, starting at the same standard, now weighs only 77 grains. But the ingenuity of the manipulators was equal to the occasion. Though they preserved the weight they surrounded it with so many difficulties and restrictions that in the end there are nearly as many distinct taels as there are trading centres, so that in the confusion commerce has to bear the brunt of innumerable exchanges. A tael in China conveys no idea, in fact, of a fixed standard; and fixity of standard is just the one thing most needed. Now it is remarkable that one of the very first acts of the great administrator the First Emperor, T'AI SHI HWANGTI, on formally assuming the rôle of Emperor was to issue a proclamation calling for uniformity of weights and measures. This was in the year B.C. 221. Unfortunately within the next two years the Empire fell into confusion with his approaching old age, and loss of energy, and though the edict was renewed by his son and successor, his murder in 207 B.C. put an end to the dynasty, and with it of most of SHI HWANGTI's most cherished schemes of amendment. Since that time no statesman has arisen till the present time with sufficient grasp of intellect to carry through the scheme planned out upwards of two thousand years ago by one of the master minds of the world.

But, after all, these schemes for the reform of the currency do not go beyond China's internal wants, while, of course, her most pressing need at the moment is to accommodate her currency with that of the rest of the world. This is, however, a problem which the most advanced financier in China has not as yet even ventured to discuss; With the accumulated experience of some twenty-five centuries, during which silver, so far as he had the opportunity of commercial intercourse, has continued the sole currency of the world; he had in fact little temptation to do so. His nation had opened up in the early centuries to Chinese commerce the whole of Asia to the basins of the Tigris, so that it could hardly have been accused of want of enterprise; and though they had met with gold coins, nowhere had they found a gold currency. Even the celebrated gold Daric of old Persia was little better than a token, and its value was regulated, not by its intrinsic value but by its exchangeability for silver. That is then, not unnaturally, the manner in which the native financier



considers the variations of exchange. It is not, in his purview, that silver has been depreciating in value, but that gold has risen to a most unexpected and unexampled height. From his point of view there may be even advantages in this. It acts, he recognises, adversely on imports into China; but from his standpoint, this, which carries distress to Europe and America, is not of itself an evil calling loudly for redress. On the other hand he sees that many articles exported from China are exchangeable in Europe and America for as much gold as before, and for which he can obtain in exchange far more silver. The higher principle of political economy that what distresses trade in one direction must of necessity be a hindrance to wholesome commerce he has not yet learned, nor does he see any necessity for such a conclusion. This is hardly to be wondered at when we find so advanced an assembly as the Senate of the United States deliberately doing all it can to cripple the import trade of the States under the same erroneous view that it is thereby promoting the best interests of the country at large. Not the least curious part of the modern financial system of the Great Republic is that more strenuously than any other of the Powers it has been pressing on China the so-called "reform" of her currency; while its own financial measures have a directly reactionary tendency, and are directed, not to the advancement but to the hindrance of trade. Naturally China and Eastern Asia have much to offer to the United States, and in return are prepared to take many of her productions and manufactures. Commerce, however, for its wholesome conduct requires some reciprocity, as otherwise the natural course of exchange will bring its own revenges. Such has been the case between America and East Asia. The States have deliberately hampered the export of goods from China, and in return for this the import of American goods has fallen off; and exchange, to emphasise this, has dropped in sympathy. The manner in which the U. S. Government has sought to rectify this is peculiar. It has been seeking to remedy the loss to itself by inducing the Chinese to adopt a gold standard; there is nothing wrong in this, and we do not suggest it as a grievance. But failing this, it is now seeking recourse to something very much in the nature of compulsion. Our new American financiers, utterly forgetting the disastrous results of the bimetallic efforts of 1890-93, are seeking to revive the cry; and again appealing to a weak administration in England to join them in their insane policy of seeking by Act of Congress to place an artificial value on silver. The result in the States was the passing of the Bland Act, which bound the Government of the States every month to purchase some twelve million ounces of silver. The end was that, after making the Treasury nearly bankrupt, silver fell lower than ever, and has never recovered the shock. More wise the British Government saved the situation by restricting the coinage of silver in India, and has succeeded in keeping exchange steady ever since. The new-old financiers who rule the Senate of to-day, after just passing one of the most reactionary measures ever proposed in the House, would finish up by re-enacting the bungles of the bimetalists of 1890. History is easily forgotten in the United States.

H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires at Bangkok is anxious to meet the desire of British subjects who wish to know their position under the Anglo-Siamese Treaty, and he asked them to meet him collectively at the Legation on July 12th.

### WHAMPOA REDIVIVUS.

(Daily Press, 22nd July)

Hongkong is again "threatened." A scheme is on foot to make Whampoa a free port, to dredge its waters, so as to give sufficient depth for ocean-going steamers, and to connect the village with Canton by electric tram. Should this scheme be carried through it is suggested that Hongkong would lose a considerable proportion of its transport trade and its prosperity would be seriously affected. It is not the first time that some such proposal has been mooted, but so far no scheme has taken practical shape. The revival of Whampoa is a kind of bogey which is held up now and then to frighten Hongkong, but though the Kowloon-Canton Railway undertaking has in a measure distracted attention from Whampoa and its possibilities, it is, we learn, certainly not the case that the Whampoa development scheme has been allowed to drop. The Chinese who are concerning themselves at present with a future for Whampoa are very sanguine and very ambitious. Although the harbour is now silted up and useless, they believe that dredging operations could ensure its being made available for large steamers. In that event it would provide more facilities and greater berthing accommodation than is possible on the river at Canton itself, and then ocean-going vessels might go right up the river to the new port without calling at Hongkong. An electric railway would provide an easy and speedy means of transit over the few miles which separate Whampoa from Canton, and enable Whampoa to become the indirect terminus of the Canton-Hankow Railway. The far-reaching possibilities of such a scheme are apparent, and the question naturally arises—Is it practicable? It is well known that Whampoa formerly afforded an anchorage for the ships employed in the foreign trade with Canton, but many circumstances, which we need not now detail, have tended to bring about the decline of Whampoa. The place possesses now only the memory of its former importance. More than once projects for railway and other enterprises likely to revive Whampoa to the detriment of Hongkong transport trade have been discussed, but for some reason or other they have come to nought. Still the fact of their cropping up so frequently would indicate that the foundation idea is not so impracticable or impossible as some would have us believe, and, apart from Chinese sentiment, the opinion is widely entertained in the Colony among Europeans as well as Chinese that with sufficient financial support the experiment would justify itself. When in the early part of 1905 it was known that Americans were endeavouring to arrange for a deep-water port near Whampoa as a terminus for the Canton-Hankow Railway, it was felt to be a powerful reason for urging the British and Chinese Corporation to expedite the Kowloon-Canton Railway. And it certainly had this effect. Mr. MURRAY STEWART then Secretary and now the President of the local branch of the China Association, writing at the time to the London Committee, said Hongkong had no reasonable ground for objecting to the opening of any such port. But the matter takes on a new aspect now that the railway from Canton to Kowloon is under construction, for the question arises whether, in the circumstances, a railway to carry freight between Canton and Whampoa would not be competitive with the Canton-Hankow railway and therefore an infringement of the terms of the agreement made by the Chinese Government with the British and Chinese Corporation who have provided the

capital for the construction of the Canton section of the line. A clause of the agreement reads: "It is further understood that the Chinese Government will not build another line competing with this railway to its detriment." To make Whampoa a port connected by a railway with Canton would tend to make the place the indirect terminus of the great trunk line, and would certainly be opposed to the terms of the railway agreement. Therefore, we think we may safely say it follows that for another thirty years at least the scheme will have to remain in abeyance, thirty years being the period covered by the railway agreement. Thus the danger of Hongkong losing its pre-eminence as a port and dwindling from its great importance as the distributing centre for South China, may still be considered as very remote, and, as threatened folks are said to live the longer, we may cherish the hope that with the opening of the railway we shall see before us a long career of usefulness for our port which shall be mutually beneficial to the Colony and the neighbouring Empire.

### RUSSIA AND THE YANGTZE REGION.

(Daily Press, 23rd July.)

Russia has never had a reputation in the Far East for the faithful observance of diplomatic agreements, and the demand she is now making at Peking with the object of extending her influence in the Yangtze region will do nothing to rehabilitate her reputation in that respect. Accentuating the policy which had led her to shield the Yangtze at the time of China's dispute with Russia about Kuldja in 1880, during the war with France about Tonkin in 1884, and again during the war between China and Japan, Great Britain obtained from China in 1899 a promise that she "would never alienate any territory in the provinces adjoining the Yangtze to any other Power, whether under lease, mortgage or any other designation." This provision tended to give to the doctrine of "spheres of interest," much discussed at that time, a concrete meaning, and it unquestionably conveyed to the public mind an impression that British interests were politically unassailable in the Yangtze Region. In the same year, Notes were exchanged at St. Petersburg between the diplomatic representatives of Great Britain and Russia with regard to their respective railway interests in China, the two Powers being "animated by the sincere desire to avoid in China all cause of conflict on questions where their interests meet." Taking into consideration "the economic and geographical gravitation" of certain parts of the Chinese Empire, Russia definitively engaged "not to seek for her own account, or on behalf of Russian subjects or of others, any railway concessions in the basin of the Yangtze." Now ten years after this compact was entered into we see Russia formally communicating to the Waiwupu at Peking a demand that in view of Russian interests at Hankow (where there is a Russian Concession), and also in view of her interests in the tea trade of the Yangtze region, Russian financiers, represented by the Russo-Chinese Bank, shall participate in the Hankow railway loans. Strictly speaking, of course, to allow Russia to participate in these loans would not be to "alienate" territory either "under lease, mortgage or any other designation," nor would it be securing to her a railway concession in the sense the words were understood at the time, and it will doubtless be argued that so long as



Russian financiers do not monopolise a loan in the Yangtze Region, Russia cannot be regarded as contravening the strict letter of the engagement into which she entered with England in 1899. But there can be no question whatever that the demand which Russia is at present making on the Chinese Government is a flagrant violation of the whole spirit of the engagement. At the time she entered into the compact Russia had a well-defined "sphere of interest" in Manchuria, which she completely lost as a result of the war with Japan. Had she been able to maintain the dominant position she had acquired in Manchuria, she would not now in all probability be concerning herself with railway loans in the Yangtze Region; but circumstances have evidently forced her to the conclusion that this is now the only means of saving her political influence from utter extinction in China. There does not appear to be any superfluous money in Russia for investment abroad indeed, in order to finance her own railway projects, which require an immense amount of capital, she has to resort to foreign loans. The fact that the Russo-Chinese Bank, which is a State institution, is named as the financial organ for the purpose of furnishing capital for the railway enterprises in the Yangtze Region makes it additionally clear that the aim is entirely political. The Russian population at Hankow does not amount to one hundred souls, and neither Russia's interests at Hankow nor her interests in the tea trade of the Yangtze—which is one and the same thing—would be likely to suffer through the absence of any Russian stake in the railway loans. The Waiwupu's reply to the demand will be awaited with interest, though we see no grounds for anticipating a denial, having regard to what has already taken place. The idea that was so confidently entertained a few years ago that British interests were politically unassailable has been ruthlessly exploded since China made known that she was prepared to accept foreign loans for the purposes of railway construction. Great Britain, however, never sought to obtain exclusive privileges in the Yangtze Region. The Chinese Government had all along been well aware and had more than once intimated that they recognised "the great importance that had always been attached by Great Britain to the retention in Chinese possession of the Yangtze Region, now entirely hers, as providing security for the free course and development of trade," and it was simply an assurance of the maintenance of the *statu quo* that Great Britain asked for in 1896 and obtained. At that time railway concessions were granted outright to foreign syndicates; and China did not have the same regard for her "sovereign rights" that she has to-day. Railway concessions are no longer granted. The lines are constructed by China herself—as the British China Association many years ago recommended that they should be constructed—with foreign capital, attracted by provisions for foreign management under Imperial control and Imperial guarantee. The British view has always been that commercial enterprise can be left to compete with commercial enterprise; private capital with private capital, but the operations of great State banks cannot be rivalled by private finance either in regard to promptitude or daring. If it is private capital that is offered by Russia for investment in the Hankow railways, there seems no reasonable ground of objection. State capital, however, constitutes and has always constituted the main ground of the British objection to encroachment in what used to be called "the

British sphere." It can hardly be called a "British sphere" any longer. Dr. MORRISON has recently informed the readers of the *Times* that "by the contract signed on June 6 the German Bank secure advantages in the Hupeh province more far-reaching than the public apparently realise, not only a railway connection between the three treaty ports on the Yangtze river, namely, Hankow, Sha-si, and Ichang, covering two-thirds of the distance westward to the Szechuan border, but also a branch line running from this main line northward to the important inland port of Siangyang, once the projected terminus of the Peking Syndicate's railway, and thence eastward to the Peking-Hankow trunk line." America has acquired a stake in the railways; now comes Russia; and as other countries are at present discussing the relation of investments to prestige in China, we may possibly learn by and bye of other similar demands.

#### RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

After a week of atmospherical depressions, with corresponding mental depressions, it was a great relief to see the sun on Friday. Everybody welcomed Old Sol. There were many who were perhaps not conscious of any particular expression of gratitude, although they appreciated the change, but no matter whether the glad thought found expression or not, there was joy in most breasts when the overcast skies were replaced by the bright blue and when the succession of storms gave place to genial sunshine. No wonder the ancients regarded the sun with such veneration and worshipped it as the source of all life.

The discussion that took place at the Legislative Council on the subject of sparks was certainly a very proper one. The fires caused by sparks from locomotives at home have been numerous in the past, and it can well be imagined that in a summer heat such as ours with everything in the neighbourhood of the railway embankment as dry as tinder that the danger of crops and even houses becoming ignited from the sparks of our prospective locomotives is very great, and it is satisfactory to learn that steps will be taken to minimise the risk of fire.

The old question cropped up this last week as to whether the Government could be sued. The Hon. Mr. Osborne placed the Government in the same exalted position as the sovereign, that it could do no wrong. I think our forefathers have exploded the idea that the King can do no wrong, and I fancy that few of us regard the Government as quite immaculate. We may not be able to sue it, but we can slander it and say nasty things about it. That seems to be about the only satisfaction we can get out of it.

We know that the local courts have still before them the case in which the Governor on behalf of the Government is bringing an action against a frontager for the performance of a specific contract. We might argue on that, but unfortunately that matter is not settled yet and we don't know where we are. One learned judge who had to decide a similar case wanted to know who is this thing called the Government of. . . . Not a very polite way of referring to such an authority. But it is a legal analysis.

The editorial in the *Daily Press* the other day on the subject of the reported proclamation for the emancipation of slaves in China recalls to mind an incident which took place at Canton a few years ago. A certain Chinese, well known in Hongkong and Canton, had prospered in his business and become wealthy, and accordingly he bought himself the title of Taotai. On the day on which he was to assume his new honour, and when his friends had gathered in large numbers to congratulate him, a man stepped forward and to the astonishment of all present claimed him as his slave. It appeared that the expectant taotai's father had been a slave of the claimant's father and as the latter had not purchased his liberty his son could not be a freeman. The event caused a great sensation

and the expectant taotai had to pay a large sum to secure his freedom. I rather think he lost his promised title, as I understand that no bondmen can hold any office in China.

Hongkong's budget this year will be waited with almost as great interest as the production of Lloyd George at home. Something unusual is bound to happen. It may not be the plundering of hen roosts, but additional money has to be obtained from somewhere, and what these sources will be we would fain know. It has been suggested before that if we needed to raise the wind at any time that it could be done by taxing liquors. I am reminded of this by an utterance of Mr. Bottomley, the M.P. who recently figured so prominently at home, in which he agreed that luxury in drink was a convenient source to tax, but why, he asked, confine it to alcoholic drink? Alcoholic drinks were taxed because they were luxuries, but wasn't every drink in the world a luxury except pure water? Now we come to the point. If the drinker of alcohol was taxed because it was a luxury, what right had they to exclude the citizen who by means of ginger ale lemonade, soda water, and other gaseous concoctions endeavoured to convert himself into a dirigible human balloon? "Why select alcoholic drink from other kinds of luxurious drink? It was a dwindling industry. The days were coming when the triumphant Tariff Reformer would go to the country and say 'Drink is gone,' and the temperance reformer was already pointing to the proud time when a magnum of ginger ale would represent the limits of legitimate hospitality and a barrel of lager beer the crowning symbol of a Bacchanalian orgy. Those would be great days from the point of view of the temperance reformer, but pitiable times for the Chancellor of the Exchequer. (Hear, hear.) If they taxed any kind of drink because it was a luxury, then tax the teetotal beverages as well, and add patriotism to the other virtues of the temperance party."

The argument is a sound one. It seems only fair that teetotalers should bear their share of the burden of taxation, especially as we have departed from the good old days when we as a nation drank ourselves out of debt. The only drawback to the application of such a principle in Hongkong is that it would hardly be worth while. The teetotalers here are so insignificant—in number, I mean.

Ice cream is not likely to be such a popular item on household menus. The price has gone up. Apparently the local ice war is ended, as the Ice Company have increased the price to one cent per pound.

RODERICK RANDOM.

#### ONOXONOH

Inspector Gourlay prosecuted five Chinese shopkeepers for having in their possession for use unjust weights and measures. They were each fined \$50.

The King's exequatur empowering Mr. M. D. Derteano to act as Consul-General for Peru at Hongkong has received his Majesty's signature.

New offices are being erected on the compound of the Central Police Station. These, we understand, are necessary on account of the work the Police Department are taking over from the Registrar-General.

The Government Gazette notifies, for the guidance of all concerned, that His Majesty the King has ruled that flags should be flown at half-mast on the day of the death of any foreign sovereign, and also on the day of the funeral.

The Hongkong Land Investment Co., Ltd., announce an interim dividend of \$3.50 per share for the past half year, and the West Point Building Co., Ltd., an interim dividend of \$2 per share. These dividends are payable on the 3rd proximo.

His Excellency the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King, to the following Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council:—Ordinance No. 20 of 1909—An Ordinance to amend the Companies (Local Registers) Ordinance, 1907; Ordinance No. 21 of 1909.—An Ordinance to regulate the Construction and Management of Railways.



An Indian watchman engaged at the Mutual Stores reported to the police on July 22 that somebody had stolen from his residence in a lane off Queen's Road Central a trunk containing clothing to the value of \$22, a promissory note for \$40, and a deposit receipt from the Supreme Court for \$20.

At a congregation held at Cambridge on 19th ult. amongst the degrees conferred was that of Bachelor of Arts upon Yu Huan Tsan, of Trinity College. The Honours List contained the names of L. M. Sing, Trinity (Class II. Historical Tripos, Part II.), and T. Y. Lo, Jesus (Class III. Economic Tripos, Part II.).

Three Chinese fishermen appeared before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on July 22 on a charge of fishing with dynamite. Sergeant Brazil observed the men from a hillside near Stanley and despatched police to arrest them. The first defendant was fined \$10 or fourteen days, and the other two were fined \$2 each, in default seven days' imprisonment.

A Chinese girl 15 years of age, was before Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Magistracy on July 19th charged with stealing from her mistress at Kowloon City three gold finger rings, one gold hairpin and one jadestone bangle. She admitted the theft and his Worship, after binding her over to come up for judgment when called upon, ordered that she be taken to the Registrar-General.

A neatly dressed Chinese woman appeared before Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Magistracy on July 21 on a charge of stealing clothing to the value of \$450 and \$90 in cash from one Ng Cheung Fong, who was stated to be her lover. Mr. Reader Harris (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) prosecuted, and Mr. Davidson (of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings) appeared for the defence. The hearing was adjourned.

At the Marine Court on July 22 before the Harbour-master, Captain Sineaton, of the steamer *Shu On*, prosecuted his chief officer named Hanlin for disobedience to his lawful orders. The offences were stated to have taken place on the trip from Kowloon to Hongkong on the 19th inst. The Captain asked several witnesses to speak to the abuse which he said he received from the defendant, but his Worship pointed out that abuse was no offence, and the case was adjourned.

Dr. Belilios prosecuted one of his houseboys before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on July 22 on a charge of stealing a \$5 bill. As Mrs. Belilios has been missing small sums of money recently she decided to lay a trap for the thief, so took the numbers and initialled all the notes she had in the house. Shortly afterwards one was found to be missing. The police were called in, and the missing \$5 bill was found on the defendant. Before his Worship passed sentence Dr. Belilios asked him not to place the culprit in the stocks. His Worship sentenced the youth to three weeks' imprisonment with hard labour.

A Japanese appeared before Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Magistracy on July 21st on a charge of assaulting two lukongs, and a woman of the same nationality was placed in the dock for obstructing the police in the execution of their duty. It appears that the first defendant was desirous of giving the Chinese a gratuitous lesson in the art of *jiu-jitsu*, but the lukongs were not inclined to receive a lesson and decided to take him to the police station. The second defendant then intervened, and endeavoured to arrange a settlement, the result being that she was taken to Wanchai Police Station with her friend. His Worship, after hearing the evidence, fined the man \$10 and discharged the woman.

## HONGKONG UNIVERSITY.

WAI-WU-PU SUBSCRIBES TAELS 10,000.

We are informed by His Excellency the Governor that he is in receipt of a telegram from the British Minister at Peking, Sir John Jordan, that the Wai-wu-pu (Chinese Foreign Office) has subscribed Taels 10,000 towards the Endowment Fund of the proposed Hongkong University.

The subscriptions collected by the Chinese Committee amount to \$201,200.

## SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on July 20th at the Board Room. Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe presided, and there were present: Hon. Mr. P. N. H. Jones, (Vice President) Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin (Registrar-General), Colonel Bedford, R.A.M.C., Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Dr. G. L. Fitzwilliams, Mr. Lan Chu Pak, Mr. Ho Kom Tong, Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Dr. Pearse (Assistant Medical Officer of Health), and Mr. W. Bowen Rowlands (Secretary).

### MALARIA AT SHAUKIWAN.

The following letter from the Government, relative to the report on malaria in Shaukiwan and its environs, was read by the Secretary:—

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 5304-09 of the 24th ultimo, and to inform you that the training and "currenting" of the stream running along the high road through the western portion of Shaukiwan village, between the slaughter-house and bridge No. 11 has already been put in hand by the Director of Public Works.

2. The occupier of the plots of cultivated ground immediately below and to the east of the Saiwan Road was found to be encroaching on Crown land, and has accordingly been turned off the grounds, and the pits have been filled in by the Director of Public Works.

3. The clearing of the scrub from the western slope of the Lyemun cliff will be put in hand as soon as possible after receipt of your plan (which is returned herewith) with the area required to be cleared marked thereon.

4. The other recommendations of the Board require an investigation of cost which is now being made, and a further reply will be sent in due course.

A. M. THOMSON,  
Colonial Secretary.

The letter was referred back to the sub-committee appointed to consider the matter.

### ADDITIONAL CEMETERY BYE-LAWS.

The HEAD OF THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT submitted the following minute:—Bye-law 10 of the cemetery bye-laws made under section 16 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903-1908, published in the Government Gazette of 4th December, 1908, Government notification No. 875, makes no provision for monuments over or enclosures of the surface of graves in excess of 24 superficial. I therefore suggest that the following sub-section be added as (2) to bye-law, 10:—"No monument over a grave or enclosure of the surface of a grave occupying more than 24 superficial feet shall be erected or made in the Colonial Cemetery without permission from the Head of the Sanitary Department, who may, if he thinks fit, grant such permission upon payment of a fee of \$2 for each superficial foot to be occupied by the monument or enclosure in excess of 24 superficial feet." I am advised that bye-law 11 as it stands is not complete, as it does not give anyone power to decide who shall be interred in any particular section. Further, none of the bye-laws at present give anyone authority to direct where corpses shall be interred in the cemetery, i.e., in the unreserved portion. The following addition to bye-law 11 as sub-section (2) would definitely authorise the Head of the Sanitary Department to settle any question that might rise in this connection:—(2) "Application for permission to inter a corpse in any special section shall be made to the Head of the Sanitary Department, who shall decide upon such application: if no such application is made every corpse shall be buried in such position as the Head of the Sanitary Department shall direct."

Mr. SHELTON HOOPER minuted—Why give the power in the sub-section 2 of section 10 to the Head of the Sanitary Department instead of to the Board? I fail to see that the proposed sub-section is wanted at all. With regard to bye-law 11, I should like to see the opinion, and to know who so advises.

Mr. HOOPER said he failed to see the reason of mentioning 24 superficial feet in clause 2. All grave spaces were six feet by two, and it was impossible to put a monument of 24 superficial feet over 12 feet. It would be necessary to have two grave spaces, and if a man had two

spaces he would be entitled to put up a monument of 24 superficial feet without any extra fee.

The VICE-PRESIDENT—These monuments, so far as I know, sometimes encroach by a foot or two. In that case it is the custom to charge \$2 per square foot.

Mr. HOOPER—I know nothing about encroaching, but if a man has taken more than he paid for, he is quite out of order. I did not think that was the reason of the minute.

The PRESIDENT.—I think there may be other cases also in which a man may want to erect a bigger monument than he is allowed, and it is only fair that he should pay an extra charge.

Mr. HOOPER—Quite, but he must buy another grave space, and he is entitled to put any monument he likes on it.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—I take it that if he encroaches over twelve feet he has got to pay extra. I don't know who the plan has to be submitted to, but it is only reasonable that a man should be allowed a little more space if he pays for it. It ought to be quite clear, however, that a plan of the monument to be erected should be submitted to some competent authority.

The PRESIDENT—Such plans would be submitted to the Public Works Department by this Department. Their surveyor would report to us whether a monument exceeded twelve feet.

With regard to the second amendment in the bye-laws and Mr. Hooper's minute in regard thereto, the PRESIDENT said there was no opinion to see. While going through section 10 with the Crown Solicitor he went into section 11. The Crown Solicitor considered that section was not complete, and, in conjunction with the speaker, proposed the addition now submitted. The clause as it stood made no reference to sections other than naval, military and civil service. The bye-laws did not state definitely in what portion of the cemetery bodies should be buried.

Mr. HOOPER—I fail to see why, if under section 11 of the present bye-laws, power is given to the President of the Board, or in his absence the Vice-President, in the new bye-law you should make another officer (the same officer under another name) and call him Head of the Sanitary Department. Surely the Board have power to say in what part of the cemetery a corpse shall be interred, and we can delegate that power to any committee without making a bye-law. Personally, I would much rather it should be left to a committee.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—I agree with Mr. Hooper. I don't see why the matter should be removed from the Board to the Head of the Department. Then on another point, upon my soul, I don't see why a cemetery should be divided up, having one section for children, one for residents of seven-years' standing and another for twenty-year residents. Where do I come in? I have not been twenty years in the Colony, but I have been thirty years in the Far East, and in spite of my extreme age I have to be buried in the seven-year section, and cannot have the distinction or honour of being buried in the twenty-year section. In all cemeteries there is, for want of a better word, what I must call a pauper section for people who die without means. No monuments are erected over these graves, and ultimately they lapse into the original condition of the ground. But for the rest, I don't see why distinction should be drawn between a child, a seven-years' and a twenty-years' resident. It is carrying on some antiquated fetish which was introduced when the flag was first planted here.

At this stage the Board went into committee to consider the suggested amendments to the bye-laws.

Mr. HOOPER, dealing with sub-section 2, said—Supposing there is a family in three graves, side by side, with a superficial area of 36 feet, and instead of putting up three monuments of twelve feet they want to put up one of 36 feet. They would have to pay an additional sum. That is not just, as it is payment twice over for the same privilege.

The PRESIDENT—In such an instance a man could bring the case to His Excellency's notice, and get the charge reduced.

Mr. HOOPER—Why should he apply to have it reduced? He is entitled to cover the 36 feet with a monument.



The PRESIDENT—Would you like a clause to that effect put in?

Mr. HOOPER—If you think it necessary. I think the justice of what I have stated must commend itself.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—Are not you overlooking the fact that between each grave space there is a strip of Crown land?

Mr. HOOPER—I won't press my point or make amendment, but it seems to me so unnecessary. I thought you would have all grasped the point at once.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—I think there is a good deal in what Mr. Hooper says, and I would suggest that the matter be allowed to stand over, and the bye-laws brought up again at next meeting.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK—I think the best thing to do is to appoint a sub-committee to go into the question.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—I beg to suggest that the words "Head of the Sanitary Department" should be altered to "President of the Board." The power of the Board has been gradually whittled away till it has become almost a farce, and I object to any transfer at all, no matter how small it is, from the President of the Board to the Head of the Sanitary Department.

The motion in favour of appointing a committee was agreed to, and the President, Mr. Lau Chu Pak and Mr. Hooper were appointed members.

The Board then resumed.

#### SCAVENGING CONTRACTOR FINED.

The complaint against the scavenging and conservancy contractor for Shaukiwan was considered, the contractor appearing in person.

The PRESIDENT stated that there were three charges against the contractor, who failed to remove a quantity of nightsoil from Shaukiwan on June 22nd.

The contractor admitted this, but said there was a typhoon that day.

Sanitary Inspector COLLETT said the signals were up, and there were heavy rain storms, but there was no typhoon. The contractor had been very unsatisfactory for sometime.

The PRESIDENT—There are other charges, but we are not proceeding with them, as it was considered those three would be sufficient to go on with. I might point out that another charge may be added of sub-letting the contract, which the sub-contractor admitted.

The contractor was then questioned by the PRESIDENT:

How often do you go to Shaukiwan?—Sometimes.

How often?—Once a week.

Who does your work?—My foreman.

Have you any other contracts?—Yes, the Aberdeen contract.

How many boats have you got?—One.

The PRESIDENT pointed out that according to the man's contract he was required to have a boat at each place. Without two boats it was obvious that he could not fulfil the terms of the contract.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Has there been a complaint against him before?

The PRESIDENT—Complaints began in February, 1909.

The Board decided to fine the contractor \$10 on each of the three charges, and to caution him. He was also informed that he must fulfil his contract by getting another boat.

A report in a month's time as to how he has carried on the work is to be submitted to the Board.

#### ANTHRAX AT KENNEDY TOWN

##### CATTLE DEPOTS.

The COLONIAL VETERINARY SURGEON wrote, under date of July 12th:—I have the honour to report for the information of the Board that a case of anthrax occurred in a Chinese bullock at the Kennedy Town cattle depot. The animal came into the depot, along with 16 others, on Saturday afternoon from Hoihow. It was segregated and placed under observation on the 11th, having the temperature of 108.5 degrees Fahrenheit. It was found dead next morning, the cause being anthrax. The remainder of the lot have been put under observation, but so far all are healthy. The carcass of the dead bullock has been cremated.

#### SANITARY INSPECTORS' DUTIES.

A list detailing the duties of Sanitary Inspectors for the year 1909 was laid on the table.

Mr. HOOPER minuted—Are the duties of the cemetery inspector laid down in writing? If so, I should like to see them.

Mr. HOOPER said he received a letter from the Secretary in answer to his minute regarding the duties of the cemetery inspector. The letter said the inspector should act under the instructions of the Medical Officer of Health. Mr. Hooper wished to know if he did not get his orders from the Head of the Department.

The PRESIDENT—It is a departmental arrangement. I send my orders to the M. O. H. for convenience sake. The inspectors report to the Medical Officer of Health before action is taken in any matter. If a matter of urgency arises, I send for the inspector myself. I inspect the books once a month, and the Medical Officer of Health inspects them once a week.

Mr. HOOPER—I see that he should be present at every interment in the non-Chinese cemeteries at Happy Valley. I would like to ask whether the Medical Officer and yourself are satisfied that he carries out that duty?

The PRESIDENT—I cannot say definitely what the practice has been in the past, but I was at the cemetery myself yesterday in order partly to ascertain the routine of the work there. I did not see the inspector myself, nor did the head sexton, and I was in the cemetery from 3-30 till five o'clock. I had the inspector sent for this morning, and he informed me that he was there watching a Japanese grave being dug.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Do I understand that the inspector has got to be at the actual interment?

The PRESIDENT—Yes.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—It is unfortunately my duty to bury two or three Europeans in a year, but I have never yet, and I have buried a good many men in the Colony, seen a sanitary inspector at any of those interments. The only persons I have ever seen were the Padre and Mr. Van Epps when I have been there myself with certain of my staff. At all the funerals I have attended in the last eight years I have never seen a sanitary inspector.

The PRESIDENT—My experience is not the same. Within the last fifteen months I have been to two funerals, and have seen two inspectors.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—I did not know an inspector ought to have been there. If I had known I would have brought the matter to the notice of the Sanitary Board earlier.

The PRESIDENT—I think members will be satisfied when I state that I have warned the inspector that his presence is necessary at all funerals at the Colonial Cemetery. In cases of Japanese funerals I informed him that he need not look on at the ceremony, as they did not like it.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—With regard to the duties of the inspectors, when the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance Commission was sitting we found it was very necessary and important that we should know which sanitary inspector was in charge of each district at a certain date. There is no record that that has been kept, and I think it is most desirable that a record should be kept, so that if a dispute crops up later on, there will be no question of the identity of the sanitary inspector.

The PRESIDENT—I don't think that can arise now, because they have their diaries to show where they are.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—You ought not to trust to a man's diary; you ought to have a muster roll. We found it had handicapped us very severely in that Commission after sitting for the best part of a year.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL—Can you tell me what is the object of an inspector being present at every non-Chinese funeral?

The PRESIDENT said it was to keep order. On Monday he saw a number of Japanese going to a Japanese funeral, and they were going along as if they were out for the day with their arms round each other. This was hardly the way to behave in a cemetery. He thought on those grounds it was better that an inspector should be present, and, apart from that, he was the person to see that the undertaker's men carried out their duties properly.

#### LIGHTING OF THE MARKETS.

Messrs. Alderup and Schluter wrote to the Board with the object of drawing members' attention to their 'Tantalum' lamps, which they asked should be given a trial in the Central Market.

Mr. HO KOM TONG minuted—There is no harm in giving the Tantalum lamps a trial in the Central Market as requested.

Mr. HOOPER—I don't quite understand why these papers are again before us. What further information do they contain?

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—I thought this question was disposed of. Why should it have been reopened?

#### BAD MILK AND SPIRITS.

The Government Analyst reported on the result of his examination of certain samples submitted to him. Of two samples of brandy he found both to be adulterated, and the vendors were convicted and fined. Of four samples of milk one was found to be adulterated, and a prosecution was pending. Six samples of whisky tested were all found to be genuine.

#### PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

The Government Bacteriologist forwarded a report on the result of his examination of samples of water taken from the public supplies. One sample taken from a hydrant in Salisbury Road near the Star Ferry wharf was found to contain 300 micro-organisms, and in the opinion of the Bacteriologist should be filtered before used for drinking. Another sample taken from Tytam was a good drinking water, and so was a third sample from Pokfulam.

#### MORTALITY STATISTICS.

Based on a death rate per 1,000 per annum the mortality statistics of the whole Colony for the week ended June 12th showed a percentage of 28.7, while for the week ended June 19th the percentage was 22.1 as against 31.7 for the corresponding week of last year.

#### PRESENTATION TO CAPTAIN AND MRS. F. A. BROWN.

A large and representative number of the Wanchai Wesleyan Church congregation and friends gathered in the Sailors' and Soldiers' Home on Wednesday evening to do honour to Captain and Mrs. F. A. Brown, the Rev. R. Ellison presiding. During the evening Rev. W. J. W. Anderson, M.D., of Fatshan, presented Capt. Brown with a silver kettle, stand, and lamp for his wife, a set of gold buttons for himself, and silver-mounted hair-brush for his son Max. The inscription read as follows:—"A parting token of affection presented to Capt. and Mrs. Brown by the congregation and friends of Wanchai Wesleyan Church, Hongkong, and by the members of the Wesleyan Mission, Canton. July 21, 1909." Dr. Anderson also presented Mrs. Brown with a pair of beautiful drawn-thread work cushion covers in the name of the Sewing Meeting. Later in the evening the Chairman announced that some friends who had not been aware of the presentation had handed to him several sums to be conveyed to Captain Brown for the purchase of books. Dr. Anderson in a speech full of feeling and sparkling with humour dwelt on the invaluable services rendered by Capt. and Mrs. Brown to the Wesleyan Church. He recalled the fact that in the early days before the present Chapel was erected a weekly fellowship-meeting used to meet in the house of Capt. Brown. Dr. Anderson also eulogized the unbounded hospitality which had been extended not only to lonely civilians in Hongkong but also to numerous members of the Army and Navy. Reference was also made to the prominent part taken by their departing friends in the Coffee Bar opened in 1895, which now had developed into the present Sailors' and Soldiers' Home in Arsenal Street. In the inception and development of the Home, Capt. Brown had given ungrudgingly of his substance, time and influence, while Mrs. Brown had endeared herself to all by her willing service rendered week by week in the Temperance meeting and the Sunday Evening Gospel meeting. In closing Dr. Anderson wished them God-speed, and assured them that in their life in Canada they would be followed by the prayers of the congregation and the blessing of the Triune God.

Capt. Brown thanked the friends on behalf of his wife and himself and said how he had been



greatly encouraged by letters which he and his wife had received from many parts of the globe. These told how the writers had been cheered and strengthened amidst the temptations and home-sickness incidental to life in the East. To know that he had helped his fellows was to him a sufficient reward.

During the evening a fine musical programme was rendered by Mrs. Joughin, the Misses Baker, Mr. White, and the Rev. R. Ellison, Mr. Peel acting as accompanist. After "Auld Lang Syne" had been sung the meeting closed with the Benediction.

## THE TRUTH ABOUT THE PRATAS.

### A MISUNDERSTOOD QUESTION MADE CLEAR.

(Specially written for the Hongkong  
Daily Press).

Most persons yet remain in ignorance of the ports and intents of the Sino-Japanese wrangle over the atoll of Pratas, of whose now cherished existence both Governments were, quite up to the very near present, most unseemly ignorant.

Anyone reading the reports daily emanating from Chinese and Japanese newspaper sources would imagine that the question of right and title to the atoll were of all-absorbing international importance; whereas when one comes to weigh and analyse the pros and cons of the matter, it resolves itself into nothing less than an unseemly commercial brawl—and, at that, one not of the cleanest description.

To put together, as one who knows, and knows authoritatively, the piecemeal history of the dispute from its inception to its present acute stage, is not a hard task; and I give here, therefore, a general digest of the facts which have led up to the appointment of the present Commission.

When Western science taught Japanese chemists educated abroad that there were other and more valuable aids to the fertilization of their poor and overworked grain-lands than the bean-cake of North China, the fish refuse from the cod and herring-oil industries of the Hokkaido, and the more pestilential human product of their cities, towns and villages, whose use still disgusts the visitor to Japan, those rapatriated students naturally came to recognise the utility of bird manure or guano and the substrata of phosphate rock, which, in islands of true coral formation, invariably underlie such deposits.

Until, I suggest, ten years ago, adventurous Japanese fowling from Kyushu and Satsuma had sailed in their junks through the Loochoos the Gotos, the Volcano Islands and those of the Bashi Group, busily despoiling the various islets of their feathered inhabitants for the sake of their wings, which have a selling value of about three or four cents a pair in southern Japan. The result naturally arrived that these rough navigators gradually decimated those groups, if not exactly of "the goose which lays the golden egg," then of the gannet which drops something equally valuable.

Thus they went further afield in their depredations, and only last Summer, it will be remembered, a party of Japanese bird-hunters was rescued by a Brazilian training-ship as far south as Wake's Island, just as their provisions and water had petered out, and were brought on to Hongkong. How much further afield than that they have gone, and upon what nation's preserves they have not yet poached remains to be discovered and announced to astonished Colonial governments.

The Pratas Shoal lying isolated, as it does, roughly 172 nautical miles from Hongkong in a direct line to the northernmost point of the Island of Luzon, was, naturally, as the nesting-place and *pie-d-a-terre* of an enormous number of sea-fowl, sooner or later bound to attract the attention of these Japanese "birders," so that it came to pass that, in the Summer of 1906, the crew of an adventurous junk, after playing havoc among the feathered tribes of the atoll—it is reported that they killed over 2,000 birds in three days—were blown off their happy hunting-ground by a typhoon, which carried their craft before it up the Formosa Channel, and landed the party in safety

somewhere north of Amoy. Later in the same typhoon season the members of a similar fowling expedition had their vessel smashed up during a cyclone, and being marooned upon the Pratas, were, I think, upon news of their fate becoming known, brought off the island by an Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer, officially sent to effect their rescue.

Thus, neither of the ill-fated expeditions put in evidence of lengthy residence in, or proprietorship of the atoll, sufficient to entitle them to a consideration of their claims.

When they were sent back to Formosa, however, from which island they had originally set out, the richness of the atoll became noised abroad through the medium of the Japanese press in South Formosa, the various newspapers of which having heard the seamen's yarns, combined in an earnest exhortation to all and sundry to emigrate southwards and partake of the fortunes which awaited them upon Pratas Island.

Not then, however, and not till considerably later did the personality of Mr. Nishizawa, the Japanese claimant in the present case, begin to loom up. Long before the potential wealth of the island finally roused the commercial desires of Mr. Nishizawa, a scheme for its exploitation had been laid, by the first Englishman to visit it (outside of its original naval surveyors and shipwrecked sailors), before one or two influential houses in this Colony of Hongkong, who pooh-poohed the idea of its value. The same individual also approached the British Foreign Office with a request for the annexation of the atoll to the Crown dominions, but was met with a refusal, the explanation of the Foreign Office being that, "after searching investigation that department had concluded that the island undoubtedly belonged to China, and that, therefore, no question of its annexation could be entertained."

In the meantime it is practically certain from files of the Japanese vernacular press of Formosa, which may still be referred to, that the Government of that island had lent a willing ear to the stories which had been circulated concerning the Pratas and its wealth, and was more or less encouraging its exploitation.

The argument of the Japanese central Government in its reply to China's official protest to Nishizawa's occupation, laid stress upon the fact that no official recognition had been taken by Japan of that claimant's possession of the atoll, yet strangely enough the Taihoku correspondent of a Hongkong paper could scarcely have maliciously invented the statement contained in a letter to his paper written in mid-July of 1908 to the effect that on the 13th of July, "Mr. Nishizawa, accompanied by officials and experts (number specified) of the Formosa Government, left Keelung for the Pratas on one of Mr. Nishizawa's steamers with the object of making an exhaustive survey of the place." This hardly reads like official abstention from interference in the "grab." Furthermore, for some little time previous to this, the name of the atoll as it was printed in the Japanese press had, with some intent, appeared as Nishizawa-jima (Nishizawa's Island) in place of Pratas.

Now Pratas is a small coral atoll, one mile and a half in length and three-quarters of a mile wide, which lies at the mouth of a horse shoe-shaped and wreck-strewn reef twelve miles in length and about ten miles across at the horns. It is only 40 feet high at its greatest altitude and of sparse vegetation, and two pine-trees of stunted and melancholy growth crown its summit.

Until the arrival of the Japanese there existed upon the atoll a small shrine erected with loving care from wreckage and kept in repair by the toil-hardened hands of the Cantonese fishermen. There was in evidence, too, a reservoir—which held the sole water supply of the atoll—in the shape of some ill-fated ship's tank which had been laboriously dragged close to the summit. It is a fact worthy of notice that neither shrine nor tank exist any longer. The Japanese and Loochoosans sent down from Formosa brought their water with them in saké tubs. Still it is not impertinent to ask where is the shrine and what has become of the Chinamen's water tank?

Upon this bleak and storm-lashed forty-foot-high square mile or two of coral, successive generations of fishermen from Hongkong and Canton had hunted the turtle in the summer, and had at other times and seasons salted and dried

the catches of fish which they made in the great lagoon. How many tens of generations have so done one may not surmise, but under the name of Tung Shan the atoll has been indelibly fused in the fishing traditions of Kwantung.

To such a place, then, came the Nishizawa expedition of July, 1908, with officials and experts, and with water, old Decauville light rails and trucks, and with coolies, pickaxes and shovels; and there ever since the Japanese have dug the phosphates, trawled the lagoon and slaughtered the birds, and according to the Chinese complaint completely ousted and driven off the island's real owners with harshness and, it is alleged, with at least some show of brutality.

The state of affairs set up by these conflicting claims has necessitated the appointment of the present Sino-Japanese Commission regarding the Pratas.

With regard to the value of the phosphates found upon the atoll, some experts have suggested them to be of greater commercial value than those of Christmas Island, but the writer is prepared to state from his own knowledge that these deposits hold a physical combination which can but add to the manufacturer's difficulty of turning them by process into a useful commercial fertilizer. Roughly speaking they might in their native condition be worth six dollars a ton delivered at the Japanese nitric acid factories of Osaka and Tokyo.

That the Chinese are now keenly alive to the value of their possessions in these latitudes which the bruises and grievances of a few fishermen have served to make clear to them is very certain, and anti-Japanese Kwantung has needed no guiding hand to show her how to make a theatrical diplomatic use of an anti-climax to the boycott troubles arising from the *Tatsu Maru* incident.

Nishizawa's claim for compensation for loss of his trade has been roughly estimated at Taels 500,000, whilst the Chinese official counter-claim was originally stated to be 3,000,000 yen.

The decision as to which claim shall be successful lies in the hands of the Sino-Japanese Commission now proceeding to the Naboth's Vineyard in dispute.

In conclusion, I have it upon the best authority that Hongkong assayers have not for years kept their noses more assiduously, if not exactly to their grindstones, than they are doing at present, under the necessity of analysing the super-scrappings of desert islands from all points of the China Sea. In this direction there is a suitable rush for the spoil.

### FREE TOWING.

An inquiry was conducted at the Harbour Office yesterday by the Harbour-master (Hon. Basil Taylor), into the charge preferred against Chung Tsim by Messrs. Shewan, Tomes and Co., of having used the launch *Itha de Dom Joas* for towing sampans and other small craft to the typhoon shelter at Causeway Bay without the owners' authority and when the launch was urgently wanted at 3 p.m. on the 20th inst. in the waters of the Colony.

Mr. Alex. Gordon spoke to seeing the launch towing about ten sampans to shelter.

The defendant said he was taking a lighter from Deep Water Bay to Causeway Bay and the sampans hooked on. He told the crew of the lighter to clear them away, but as soon as one unhooked others hooked on. He did not take the numbers of the sampans. They all cast off, however, when he drew abreast of Tsim-tsu-tsu.

One of the crew stated that the coxswain told him to order the sampans to cast off, and he did so.

The case was adjourned *sine die*.

The Chinese merchants in the South Pacific Islands, it is said, are about to open a large Chinese Commercial Bank and have already subscribed ten million dollars capital for the purpose. Their representative, Taotai Li, recently arrived in Tientsin with a view to getting the co-operation of the merchants in China, and has been entertained by the president of Tientsin Chamber of Commerce, who has also invited the local influential merchants to meet him to discuss the matter.



## ITALIAN CONVENT.

## ANNUAL PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

A brilliant and interesting function took place at the Italian Convent on the 20th inst. on the occasion of the annual prize distribution. A large matshed had been erected within the compound and this was embellished with flags, festoons of greenery, baskets of flowers and other floral decorations, presenting a very picturesque appearance. A numerous assembly of ladies and gentlemen filled the matshed, among those present being His Excellency the Governor, General Sir Joachim Machado, His Excellency Ko Ern Chen, Commodore Lyon, His Lordship Bishop Pozzoni, Captain Cinatti, Mr. and Mrs. Volpicelli, Mrs. and Miss Lyon, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Leiria, Mr. T. K. Dealy, Brothers Christian and Cyprian, Dr. Fitzwilliams, Father Robert, Mr. E. Shellin, Captain Wo, officers of the Portuguese cruisers, Mr. Funatsu, and Captain Mitchell Taylor, A.D.C.

The programme was worthy of the occasion. It showed the attainments of the pupils, including as it did a polka concertata (16 hands), an address and song of welcome, recitations, etc., as well as the portrayal of "the Four Seasons of Life."

The Manager's Report was read by the Rev. P. de Maria in an interval of the programme. At the outset it contained a sympathetic reference to the death on the 14th December, 1908, of Sister M. Allanson, who for thirty-eight years, without so much as a single month's intermission, taught with considerable success in the school. During all that time, Sister Allanson filled the position of Headmistress in succession to Sister Bowring, the daughter of a former governor of Hongkong, and was in turn succeeded upon her death by Sister Teresa, a certificated teacher from the Academy of Milan. On the last occasion the report was presented the average school attendance was 206.67. This has been increased during the year just ended to 242.58, being an increase of 17.37 per cent. That the Convent is fulfilling essentially the charitable feature of the institution is shown by the fact that of the pupils attending the School no less than fifty are from the Orphanage attached to the establishment, while thirty per cent. of the day-scholars are admitted free of charge. There is no indiscriminate charity in such admissions, as in every case the Superioress is satisfied, after investigation, of the parents' absolute inability to provide for their children's schooling. In addition to the ordinary subjects prescribed by the Code, such extra subjects as music, drawing and painting are also taught in the school, while the French and German languages as well as typewriting have been added in compliance with the demand which has arisen for such additional subjects. One hundred and ten pupils attended the music classes; twenty-five drawing and painting. Without entering into details on the report of the Inspector of Schools, whose criticisms have been directed mainly towards what he has termed the "English work" of the School, it is permissible to observe that the greater majority of the children attending the Convent School, are children of Portuguese and of Chinese parentage whose opportunity of hearing and conversing in the English language is at school. The acquisition of idiomatic English by such children is, therefore, a matter of great difficulty. If they have not come up to the standard expected by the Inspector it is a reasonable hope that the due allowance be made to the national character of the home environs which, in other respects, leave nothing to be desired. A rule of the school is that, at work as in play, the English language, and that alone, be the medium of instruction. That the measure of success attained by the school in the past is encouraging, is testified to by the fact that some of the pupils are engaged in teaching at private and public schools in such important centres like Hongkong, Manila and Hankow. In the past, children of the Convent have not entered the annual public schools sports; a new departure is contemplated in this respect by the Superioress, and it is hoped that our scholars will compete in friendly rivalry at the Happy Valley next March. The health of the children during the year under review has

been very satisfactory. When presenting the prizes in October, 1907, H. E. the Governor spoke of the great interest which he felt in the industrial section of the school in which "the orphan girls are taught a means of livelihood which may be useful to them hereafter and by which they may be able to help a little forward and contribute towards the maintenance of the school in which they are being cared for." It is my very pleasant duty to observe, at the request of the Superioress, that the value of self-help and self-reliance inculcated upon the children by His Excellency has stimulated the girls to greater efforts in their desire to help the Convent with the product of their labour. By their needlework the girls foreign and Chinese without exception—have done much towards the upkeep of the very large establishment with its 450 inmates and its branches throughout the Colony and its neighbourhood, altogether making up the large number of 800 dependants. Lady Lugard has very kindly offered a souvenir to the Convent, which would permanently remain in it, and on which the name of the most upright and self-reliant pupil would be engraved each year. Two names have been submitted to His Excellency: for 1907-1908 Miss Maria Rozario; for 1908-1909 Miss Adela Llorente. To the donors to the prize fund our sincere obligations are tendered. Acknowledgment of contributions must be made to H. E. Sir Frederick Lugard, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., Commodore Lyon, Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., the Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, the Hon. Mr. Wei-Yuk, C.M.G., Chev. Z. Volpicelli, Mrs. Ho Tung, Messrs. J. R. M. Smith, H. N. Mody, R. Shewan, W. Lysaught, J. M. E. Machado, F. A. Gomes, E. S. Kadoorie, H. Dixon, A. S. Gomes, Jr., Francis Tse Yat, Ho Fook, Ho Kom Tong, P. K. Kwok, Sin Tak Fan, Choa Leep Chee, S. D. Setna, Ho Wing, and Simon Tse Yan.

HIS LORDSHIP BISHOP D. POZZONI said:—Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,—It is not my purpose to enlarge on the very complete report which has just been presented by the Manager on the working of this school during the past year. I have a much more pleasant duty to perform. That duty is a dual one. It is to give expression to the feelings of joy and gratitude of the Mother Superior and of her staff of sisters for the encouraging interest which is evinced in their humble efforts by an assemblage as large as it is distinguished. During the forty-nine years of its existence in this hospitable Colony never has the Convent, on any similar previous occasion, been honored by a gathering of such high distinction as we see met here this afternoon. While returning thanks on behalf of the sisters, I should be failing in my duty were I to omit mention of my sense of very sincere obligations to you, Sir, for presiding at this function and investing it with the dignity inseparable from your high office. To Your Excellency, General Machado and to Your Excellency Special Commissioner Ko, I am also very grateful for your presence, and also to the large number of ladies and gentlemen who have been so kind as to grace us with your presence. I am to extend, on behalf of the Superioress, an invitation to all those who have not yet done so to inspect a small collection of needlework, drawing and painting exhibited this afternoon in one of the class rooms. The object of this little exhibition is to illustrate the work which has been referred to in the Manager's report and which merited His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard's special commendation when he last did us the honour of distributing the prizes at this school. Before I have the honour of asking Your Excellency to hand the prizes to the children who have worked for and deserved them I beg you will permit me to call out the names of the two successful pupils who have been awarded the souvenirs so kindly offered by Your Excellency. Miss Maria Rozario and Miss Adela Llorente will come forward and receive at you hands the Governor's prizes. I feel sure the teachers, the pupils and all present will feel honoured if Your Excellency will condescend to address us a few words, especially at a time when the Colony is—in the phrase be permissible—in the stage of metamorphosis as regards its educational movement on the very eve of the foundation of a seat of learning with

which Your Excellency's name will be for ever associated in the future, Hongkong University. It will surely be an institution that is destined to disseminate its leavening influence throughout the length and breadth of an Empire whose sons and daughters owe so much to the educational system of the Colonial Government under whose aegis the Italian Convent School largely depends for its existence. (Applause.)

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR then addressed the gathering. He said—Monseigneur, Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, Monseigneur Pozzoni has thanked us in very cordial and courteous terms for our presence here this evening. I am sure that I shall voice your sentiments as well as my own when I say that it is we who are indebted for an opportunity for being present at this very pleasant function and of testifying our appreciation of the very admirable work which is being done in this institution. I am glad that Your Excellencies, distinguished representatives of Portugal and China, two countries which are on very friendly terms with my own country, are here this evening to witness the work, the admirable work, that is being done at this institution under the supervision of the Italian ladies who have devoted their lives to the benefit of humanity. You will see, in fact we were told just now by the manager of the convent school, that the majority of the pupils at this institution are of Portuguese and Chinese race, and I am proud that this institution has prospered and has grown to its present dimensions under the fostering care of the colonial government. When I last had the opportunity and the privilege of presiding at a similar function I laid special stress, as the manager in his admirable speech just now reminded us, on the value, indeed, the necessity, of training character as well as training the intellect of the pupils. Indeed I have so frequently recurred to this subject in the various prize-givings in this Colony that I am almost afraid my words may seem like wearisome reiteration. On that occasion I promised on behalf of my wife a souvenir upon which should be recorded the name of the girl who in each year had distinguished herself most in unselfishness, in integrity, and in self-reliance. I am sorry that my wife is not here to-day to present it herself, for it would have been a very great pleasure for her to do so. The two names that are engraved on that shield are the names of the two young ladies who just came to receive small mementoes, Miss Maria Rozario and Miss Adela Llorente. I congratulate them most heartily on the distinction which they have gained. (Applause.) The souvenir itself is merely a plain sheet of silver unadorned with any decoration or any meretricious device, for it is intended to record the name of the girl who although she may not have shown any brilliancy in her studies or in the arts of music and painting, has nevertheless, proved herself to be the most reliable and the best girl in the school for the year. You, sir, were good enough to allude to the establishment of a university in terms of commendation, and I think you said it is a project which I have myself very deeply at heart, for I believe that by the establishment of such a seat of learning of that sort in this Colony we could continue to develop that training of character on which I set so much value. This is especially so in the case of the Chinese, for if they had to go to Europe or America to complete their studies they would find themselves in unfamiliar surroundings, and exposed to many temptations and deprived of that counsel and guidance which are essential to youth. You who have trained in Hongkong your students will be able to continue to look after their welfare and their parents or guardians will be able to see them from time to time and exert their influence over them. This is why I consider a university here will be of special value to South China. Before I sit down I would like to offer one word of congratulation on the very considerable increase in numbers which the manager of the school has told us has taken place during the past year, but at the same time I must add my expression of sympathy in the great loss you have sustained in the death of one of your devoted band, one of the ladies who has for thirty-eight years devoted her entire time and abilities to making this institution what it is. There were many points in that



most interesting account and also in Monseigneur's speech. The participation by this school in the sports of the Colony is, I think, a departure to be warmly welcomed. We also heard, and I was especially glad to hear, of the contribution made by the girls of this institution to the funds which go to support the school and the other undertakings connected with the Italian Convent. I am extremely glad that this renewed stimulus, as it was called, is in some degree due to the words that I said last time I addressed you. I wish you all success in all the large undertakings that you carry on under the name of the institution in addition to the school itself. I wish the boys and girls a very happy and pleasant holiday. (applause.)

His Excellency then distributed the prizes to the following:

Special Class—Emily Minhinnett for arithmetic, history, and needlework; and Mary E. White for hygiene, geography and reading.

VII. Standard—Maria Gomes, Katie Raymond, Adele Kliffemann, Elvira Felices and Hortensia Baptista.

VI. Standard—Rita Elizaga, Bettie Elias, Cassilda Carvalho and Aurea Ozorio.

V. Standard—Lucy Lewhun, Arminda Flores, Katherine Krugloff, Jennie Lawrence, Adela Llorente, Josephine Cunha, Pilar Fanlo and Kathleen Minhinnett.

IV. Standard—Mary Mack, Alice Young, Cecilia Rozario, Emiliana berasturi, Maria Rodrigues, Amanda Hayes, Angela Carvalho and Edith McLeod.

III. Standard—Eonor Farias, Jennie Braga, B. Tchilchelnitzky, Elizabeth Xavier, Mary Leong, Eva Figueiredo, Sarah Krater, Carmen Mascarenha, Camilla Castro, Hannah Murray, Flora Fung, Almira Barradas and Clothilde Baptista.

II. Standard—Maud Braga, Clara Passos, Ignez Pereira, Lizzie Comar, May Meluish, Olga Carvalho, Helena Lima, Antonia Canda, Luiz Gutierrez, Hercie Gardner, Mary Cheong Fok, Lizzie Wilkinson, Clara Moore, Anna Remedios, Angelina Puerta and Sarah Remedios.

I. Standard—Augusta Remedios, Elsa Carvalho, Libanio Noronha, Isabel Matias, Christina Ozorio, Goldia Lewchun, Molly Gomes, Felisa Fanlo, Lily Silbermann, Isabel Santos, Adela Farias, Mary E. Farias and Bruna d'Almada.

Infant School:—Section A.—Lindamira Nunes, Jennie Buntzen, Alda Leon, Delminda Lopes, Anizia Lopes, Carmen Garcia, Nenita Silva, Aurea Xavier, Maria L. Barradas, Eva Tchitchehnitzky, Edith Malamut, Belle Messer and Jennie Farias. Section B.—Ivy Davis, Cybele Guimaraes, Lily Wei-han, Emilia Figueiredo, Rosie Wei-han, Annie Dillon, Julia Gardner and Guilherme Ribeiro. Section C.—Noel Braga, Joao Ribeiro, Luiz Rosario, Abraham Tchitchehnitzky, Louisa Isabel, Jab Cooper and George Yip Yo.

Special prizes to the orphan girls—Anna Cruz for embroidery, Sarah Velarde for needle-work, Helena Carmo for needle-work, Lucy Loo for needle-work, Alim Chau for embroidery, Akin Chenn for lacing, Akwai Chann for needle-work, Akin Leong for embroidery, and Key Chann for lacing. Special prize for religious instruction, offered by His Lordship, Bishop D. Pozzoni—Angelina Carvalho. For drawing and needle-work Alice Kwok and Flora Fung. For painting—Elvira Felices, Mary E. White and Marciana Escano. For music—Mary Ahwee and Elvira Felices.

The proceedings concluded with the National Anthem.

Amongst those called to the Bar last month were Messrs. Sei Chen Wang, of Lincoln's Inn, and Chung Hin Wang, D.C.L., Yale, of the Middle Temple. Three Siamese were also called.

The one hundred per cent. dividend just declared by the Redjang Lebong Gold Mining Company sinks into insignificance when compared with the distribution for 1908 recently announced by the Dordt Petroleum Company, which bores for oil in Java. Its profit, that year, came to 4,306,000 guilders. The dividend declared amounted to 650 per cent! It stood at 550 per cent in 1907.

## SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 19th July.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE  
(SIR F. PIGGOTT).

### MANSLAUGHTER.

Kwok Yan was indicted for manslaughter and pleaded not guilty. Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., Acting Attorney General, conducted the prosecution, prisoner being undefended.

The following jury was empanelled: Messrs. Robert Miller, James Dickie, A. C. Botelho, C. Bird, G. Duncan, W. G. Goggin, and F. Gomez.

The Acting Attorney-General stated that the question before the jury was really one of identity, that was to say whether the prisoner was the person who inflicted the wound which caused the death of the man Lai Luk. The Crown would call witnesses to say that they saw the prisoner inflict a stab on the left buttock of the deceased during a quarrel. Some time previous to this the two men had a row and during the subsequent quarrel deceased was thrown to the ground and the prisoner was seen to hold him by the queue while he plunged a knife into his left buttock. Prisoner then disappeared. The wounded man went to his house and later to the Yaumati Police Station, where he was recommended to go to hospital. He would not go, with the result that blood poisoning set in and he died in a short time. The original indictment was for murder, but under the circumstances it was changed to manslaughter.

Witnesses were then called.

The jury found prisoner guilty and His Lordship passed sentence of two years' imprisonment.

### PIRACY AT DEEP BAY.

To Yee and Chan Kum Tai were charged with having on the 22nd June last committed a robbery with violence at Deep Bay. They pleaded not guilty. The Acting Attorney-General, instructed by Mr. Dennys, conducted the case for the Crown, and prisoners were undefended.

The same jury was empanelled.

The Attorney-General stated that the prisoners were charged with having in company with others robbed the prosecutor of his fishing junk and a quantity of salt. The prosecutor was a fisherman who salted the fish which he caught and sold them on shore. On the occasion of which he complains he was near Sau Chau, an island in Deep Bay, when prisoners came along in a boat and fired a shot in true piratical style, ordering him to lower his sail. They boarded his boat, and took possession of it, afterwards putting the prosecutor and his foks ashore on the mainland. Not long afterwards the prosecutor came across some bags which he recognised as his and on pursuing his inquiries further he had the two prisoners arrested. The question would again be one of identity, but in this case it would be easier, as the owner of the junk and his foks had been in presence of the prisoners for some time.

Evidence was then called, prisoners being found guilty, and sentenced to seven years' imprisonment.

### IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. H. H. J.  
GOMPERTZ (PUISNE JUDGE.)

### ANOTHER EMIGRATION CASE.

Another emigration case came before the Court in which Cheng Yu Ting sued Hung Kwok Lam for \$1,000 as money lent, defendant counter-claiming for \$1,850 after deducting the amount of the claim, but agreeing to waive \$850 in order to bring it within the jurisdiction of the Court.

Mr. C. G. Alabaster, instructed by Mr. A. Davidson, of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings, appeared for the defendant, and Mr. J. W. Orr, instructed by Mr. Jackson, from the office of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, appeared for the defendant.

Defendant's claim being the larger he went into the box first and stated that he had had

a conversation with plaintiff about shipping emigrants to America and Australia, and subsequently witness told plaintiff that he would have to speak to the people on the steamers. Witness spoke to the head fireman on the *Cranley*, who said the second engineer would help him. Witness also saw the steward. The head fireman said the price would be \$600 for each man, and the fireman and the steward were to pay each \$50 to witness for every man. Witness took the head fireman and the steward to the plaintiff who paid the fireman \$600 and the steward \$400. Later plaintiff inquired about passengers being sent down by the *Orange Branch*, and it was agreed to ship passengers at \$580; the amount which the plaintiff agreed to pay the steward. Subsequently it was reduced to \$576. Defendant stated that he was to collect the money from plaintiff on receiving letters from Australia that the emigrants had arrived. Witness saw six men off on the steamer for Australia and in due course he received two letters, one signed by the five men and the other signed by the sixth man.

Mr. Alabaster objected to the letters being put in.

Witness stated that he had never received notice from the plaintiff that the men had not arrived.

His Lordship—You are not able to prove these letters?

Mr. Orr—No.

Witness added that when he went to the plaintiff for the money the latter told him to wait.

Under cross-examination witness admitted that he was not a licensed passenger broker, and Mr. Alabaster submitted that that answer was evidence of illegality.

Mr. Alabaster—Why did you arrange for their being stowed away?

Mr. Orr objected to the question being put in that form.

Mr. Alabaster—Did you think that was the proper way to obtain passengers for Australia by having interviews with the firemen?—I did not know it was illegal.

Did you intend that the steward and firemen should hand the money you paid them on to the owners of the vessel?—No answer.

Mr. Orr submitted that if his friend was going to plead illegality he must give twenty-four hours' notice.

Mr. Alabaster agreed to waive the point.

After other evidence His Lordship found for plaintiff with costs and non-suited defendant on the counter-claim.

Wednesday, 21st July.

### ANOTHER USURY CASE.

Sander Singh, an Indian watchman, sued another watchman named Kaser Singh for \$100 due on a promissory note. Mr. Crowther Smith appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Reader Harris, from the office of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, appeared for the defendant.

Plaintiff stated that he lent the defendant \$100 last year and the latter agreed to pay three per cent. per month. He denied under cross-examination that defendant came to him after the writ was served and offered to settle the case by paying \$30 interest on the principal and that plaintiff wanted \$50 because he wished \$20 for his solicitor's expenses. He also denied that defendant had paid \$70 on account, which had not been endorsed on the promissory note because plaintiff alleged at the time he had lost the key of the box in which he had locked the note and could not find it.

Defendant asserted that he had paid the \$30 on account and had paid \$30 into Court.

Evidence was called in support of this.

His Lordship gave judgment for plaintiff.

At an extraordinary meeting of shareholders of Messrs. Weeks and Co., Ltd., Shanghai last week a resolution was passed unanimously authorising the directors to create and issue debentures providing for the payment of principal sums not exceeding Tls. 200,000 (Shanghai Sycee) with interest at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum, the debentures to be made redeemable at any time after the first five years and within twenty years of issue.



## ALLEGED INFRINGEMENT OF TRADE-MARKS.

### INTERESTING CASE AT THE MAGISTRACY.

Three Chinese merchants were charged before Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Magistracy on the 22nd inst. with selling, or exposing for sale, or having in their possession for sale, medicine pills bearing marks so nearly resembling registered trade-marks as to be calculated to deceive.

Mr. Eldon Potter, instructed by Mr. J. H. Gardiner, prosecuted, and Mr. F. Paget Hett (of Messrs. Brutton and Hett) appeared for the defendants.

Mr. Potter reminded his Worship, before going into the facts, that it had been arranged between the defendants and the complainants that these charges should be withdrawn if they carried out certain conditions. He did not know whether Mr. Hett represented the three men who had agreed to carry out such conditions.

Mr. Hett said his clients refused absolutely to carry out any conditions.

His Worship—What was your suggestion?

Mr. Potter—It was really their suggestion. They came to us and asked us to withdraw the summons. We told them we did not wish to be harsh, and would withdraw in consideration of their paying portion of the costs and not selling the forged articles in future.

Mr. Hett entered a plea of "not guilty" on behalf of the defendants, and said it would be convenient if the cases were taken separately.

Mr. Potter said the facts were the same in each case, but if his friend insisted the cases should be taken separately.

Mr. Hett—I desire that the case against Chu Hong should be taken first, and that he should be dealt with summarily.

Mr. Potter informed the Court that the complainant in the case was a manufacturer of pills, and the defendant was the manager of the Kwan Hing firm. The summons was taken out under the Merchandise Marks Ordinance, No. 4 of 1890, and the onus of proving that they acted innocently was thrown upon the defendants. Mr. Potter said he intended first to give his Worship a short history of the complainant, and to show how it was he became a manufacturer of pills. The complainant began life as a boarding-house keeper, and was at that time a rather delicate young man, suffering from throat trouble and asthma. He was attended by a doctor who prescribed certain pills from which he derived so much benefit that he obtained the ingredients, manufactured the pills himself, and gave them away voluntarily. About the year 1890 he started in the pill business, sold in the trading name of Ho Kang Woo and assumed the firm name of Sang Lee Chan. 'Ho' meant flower, or water lily; 'kang' meant mirror; and 'woo' was a gourd. About the year 1899 he suspected that somebody else was imitating this mark, so adopted a second mark composed of flying bats, oyster shells and water nymphs. The pills were made up in boxes with the name of the firm on the outside, and in the inside were a number of leaflets. Mr. Potter produced a pill box of the rival firm which, he submitted, was to all intents and purposes the same thing, the only difference being the name on the outside. In 1907 a nephew of the complainant's opened a shop in Canton, adopting for his firm name Hoi Yuen Tong, and he commenced to make pills practically the same as those made by the complainant; the boxes and leaflets were practically the same to look at. Complainant protested against this in Canton, and brought the matter before the Canton Chamber of Commerce. On investigation that body came to the conclusion that the complainant was solely entitled to these marks, and found that the rival firm had no right to them at all, but they did not grant an injunction because, Counsel took it, they had not the power. Although the boxes were very similar, and might well deceive the outside public, still there were certain points on them which must show a trader who dealt in pills where the box came from, and people who were selling the pills must have known whether they were selling the genuine article or not. It was quite obvious that any

trader dealing in these pills could not very well fail to know from what firm the pills came. In June, 1907, the complainant opened a shop at 16, Queen's Road West, and put his nephew in charge.

His Worship—I thought you objected to the nephew?

Mr. Potter said this was another and a friendly nephew. In March, 1909, complainant applied under the Trade-marks Ordinance of 1898 to register the 'Gourd' mark and the 'Flying Bats' mark. In response to the application a certificate was duly issued and signed by the Colonial Secretary, who certified that the complainant was the owner of the marks. In order to publish this fact abroad, complainant ordered advertisements to be inserted in five local Chinese papers, and that advertisement was, in fact, continuing still in four Chinese papers. The defendant, Chu Hong, was the manager of the Kwan Hing firm.

His Worship—Have we the right defendant before the court? Is he the manager?

Mr. Hett Yes, your Worship. The police who seized certain articles at the shop would be able to identify him.

His Worship—You know your client, don't you?

Mr. Hett—I know he says he is my client. The police would be able to inform you if he is the man you want.

Mr. Potter—That is the man, your Worship.

His Worship—Are you sure you have got hold of the right man?

Mr. Potter said it was the right man so far as he knew, and he was the manager of the Kwan Hing firm. It was supposed that this firm was an offshoot of the Kwan Sang, another defendant firm. For ten years past the complainant had been in the habit of selling pills to the Kwan Hing firm, which firm very often used to get rather important posters from him. These posters, as his Worship would observe, set out distinctly that complainant's firm was the Sang Lee Chan and also gave the address. Therefore, any person who went into the defendant's shop for pills get out in this poster ought to get the pills manufactured by the Sang Lee Chan Company. About two months ago the nephew who was managing complainant's branch in Hongkong called at the defendant firm and asked for two of Ho Kang Woo's "stop cough" pills similar to those advertised on the signboard outside the shop. On receiving two pills he examined them, and found they were not complainant's pills, but the pills of the rival firm. The police were communicated with, and on June 21st a Chinese constable went to the Kwan Hing and purchased two full boxes. He also asked for the genuine Ho Kang Woo's, the same as advertised on the signboard outside the shop. He got two boxes, and obtained a receipt. The pills on examination turned out to be not those of the complainant, but the pills manufactured by the rival firm. On June 23rd a search warrant was obtained, and Detective-Sergeant Grant and a Chinese detective searched defendant's shop and seized a number of boxes of pills, a number of empty boxes and some leaflets, and it was rather significant that some of the empty boxes seized were some of the genuine boxes. On June 28th a person who represented himself to be a representative of the defendant firm called at Mr. Gardiner's office and said he came from the firm.

Mr. Hett objected to the admission of any conversation between this man and Mr. Gardiner.

Mr. Potter said the man called and requested that certain proceedings Mr. Gardiner was bringing against his firm should be stayed.

Mr. Hett stated that Mr. Gardiner had been paid \$250.

His Worship—What was the \$250 paid to Mr. Gardiner for?

Mr. Potter—It was paid to Mr. Gardiner's client as satisfaction for the costs he had incurred.

Mr. Hett withdrew his objection, but said he would object to his friend referring to any conversation with Mr. Gardiner and a third party.

Mr. Potter said this was a peculiar form of prosecution under the Merchandise Marks Act, and a prosecution in which they were allowed to get information out of employees in a shop, and the Act said that proof of the defendant's

innocence would be his willingness to come forward and give information.

His Worship decided that the point regarding the admission of conversation could be argued when it came up in evidence.

Mr. Potter said that three men called at Mr. Gardiner's office and requested that these proceedings should be stayed. Mr. Gardiner told them, through an interpreter, that they would be required to carry out certain conditions, one of which was to put an advertisement in the papers. On June 30th they produced an advertisement which they said they were quite prepared to insert. On July 6th, when Mr. Gardiner appeared in Court, he was somewhat surprised to find the three defendants represented by Mr. Hett and determined to fight. The fact Counsel wished to press upon his Worship was that complainant's poster was up outside the defendant's shop, and advertised that the latter sold complainant's pills. It was impossible, Counsel submitted, that the defendant firm could have made a mistake, for complainant's name was set out clearly on the backs of the leaflets.

Evidence was then called, and the hearing adjourned.

## BUILDING COLLAPSE IN QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

### MANY NARROW ESCAPES: NO FATALITIES.

One of Hongkong's alleged jerry built structures tumbled in Wednesday morning through the roof collapsing. The building in question is situate at 142, Queen's Road Central, the ground floor thereof being a piece-goods shop, and the first and second stories family residences. According to the inmates of the top floor the collapse was preceded by an ominous creaking of the roof, which eventually fell in, and carried most of the goods and chattels on the first and second floors through to the ground floor. Wonderful to relate, however, the inmates of all floors escaped unscathed, being at the time of the collapse on portions of the first and second floors which remained firm, while those in the shop beneath were likewise fortunate in missing the falling debris.

A few years ago, we understand, the unstable condition of this building was reported upon, and the Public Works Department then ordered certain alterations. Recently, a party wall between Nos. 42 and 44 has been removed with the object of making the two shops into one large one. In place of the wall, iron pillars were used to support the first floor, and it may be that the removal of the wall mentioned weakened the buildings. It must be considered a very fortunate thing that the collapse occurred in such mild weather, for there can be little doubt had a typhoon overtaken the Colony the whole of the structure would have fallen in, and the death roll in such a case might have been considerable. Shortly after the collapse the Public Works Department proceeded to shore the buildings up, and repairs will be effected as speedily as possible.

## A NEW SOLICITOR.

At the Supreme Court on July 19 Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., presented to the Chief Justice an application for the admission of William Blakestone Hind as a solicitor to practice in that honourable court. He said that the papers had been filed in order and the essential fact had been established that the gentleman had been admitted as a solicitor in England by the affidavit of Mr. Hett.

His Lordship admitted Mr. Hind to practice and trusted he would have a successful career.

## CHINESE AIR-SHIPS.

A Kuangtung dispatch to Northern papers states that the Intendant of Industry in that province, H. E. Chen Wang-tseng, has sanctioned an application from a merchant named Yu Chih-ching to open a manufactory at his own expense in the provincial capital for the manufacture of air-ships.

The formal opening of the new railway station at Shanghai, which is the terminus of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway, took place last Saturday.



## MR. SHELTON HOOPER ROBBED.

While Mr. and Mrs. Shelton Hooper were entertaining the Chief Justice at dinner on Monday night, a little diversion was created by the capture of a thief in Mrs. Hooper's bedroom. In the course of the dinner the houseboy was sent on an errand to the bedroom, and shortly after his despatch a scream was heard from that quarter. Mr. Hooper hastened to the spot to learn the cause of the outcry, and seeing his houseboy struggling with a strange Chinese went to his assistance. The thief was overcome, a constable was called, and the intruder was taken to the Central Police Station. At that time nothing was missed from the bedroom, but Mr. Hooper subsequently discovered that the contents of the jewel box had been turned out, and that a lady's gold watch chain was missing. After a search of the room the missing article was found near the spot where the houseboy and the thief had been struggling. The intruder was charged before Mr. F. Hazeland at the Magistracy yesterday with being on the premises with intent to commit a felony, and with the larceny of the watch chain, and Mr. Hooper informed his Worship that last week he had engaged the defendant to wait at dinner; consequently he knew the run of the house. The defendant told the Court that he went to look for Mr. Hooper's cook. He was in the boys' quarters when Mr. Hooper called him into the bedroom and then gave him in charge. On the first count his Worship sentenced the defendant to three months' imprisonment, and on the second to three months' imprisonment and six hours' stocks.

## AN INTERESTING STORY.

## OFFERING TO SELL STOLEN GOODS TO THEIR OWNER.

At the Magistracy on July 20 before Mr. J. R. Wood two Chinese named Leung Hok and Lai On were charged with receiving four pieces of white serge which they knew had been feloniously stolen from the Tak Cheong firm.

Mr. H. L. Denny, sen., appeared for the complainant, Tak Cheong, and Mr. Crowther Smith appeared for the defendant, Lai On.

The evidence of Ho Wing, a partner in the Tak Cheong firm, was that on May 20th he took delivery of a case invoiced as containing five rolls of white serge, four bearing the same numbers as the roll produced in Court. The case was not opened at the time, but put into the godown as received. Witness on the 15th inst. went into the Hop Wa shop and was asked to purchase four rolls of serge. As the serge was a kind which he believed was only imported by the Tak Cheong firm he "put them off" and went to his godown to see if it had been stolen. He found that the case had gone. Then he went back to the Hop Wa shop and said he should want a receipt from the owner. The defendant Lai On came and produced a receipt chopped with the defendant Leung Hok's Chop. He was then arrested.

Cross-examined by Mr. Crowther Smith, witness said he did not know how the case could have been taken out as the godown had not been broken into, and the key was hung in the manager's room.

Evidence was also given by one of the complainant's shop coolies, and by a Chinese youth living at the Hop Wa shop. The latter deposed that Lai On brought two of the rolls to the shop and Leung Hok brought the other two a little later.

Prisoners were remanded until Wednesday afternoon, the 28th inst.

## YACHTSMEN ENCOUNTER A DERELICT.

While the Corinthian Yacht Club cruiser *Lady Godiva*, commanded by Mr. J. Spittles, was passing through the Lyemun Pass at the beginning of this week she picked up a derelict fishing junk from which she rescued three Chinese seamen. The yachtsmen immediately returned to the Club House with their prize, and there landed the Chinese, whose wants were supplied before they were allowed to depart.

## QUARANTINE ON VESSELS FROM HONGKONG.

The following reply to their recent representations has been received from the Government by the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
7th July, 1909.

SIR,—With reference to my letter No. 1563-909 of the 5th instant I am directed to inform you that I am in receipt of a telegram from the Colonial Secretary of the Straits Settlements dated the 6th instant expressing regret that at present the quarantine against Hongkong at Singapore cannot be reduced. I am, &c.

C. CLEMENTI,  
for Colonial Secretary.

P. S.—Since writing above I have received enclosed telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Consul-General at Shanghai.

The Secretary,  
Chamber of Commerce.

Enclosure.

Your telegram of 5th July. Quarantine consists of inspection of vessel lasting for in no case more than one hour.

Quarantine Authorities consider inadvisable to reduce this slight precaution as long as cases of plague reported at Hongkong.

WARREN.

The following reply was sent to the Government:—

Hongkong Chamber of Commerce,  
8th July, 1909.

SIR.—I have the honour to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of your letter of 7th instant (No. 1563/1909).

My Committee learn therefrom that the Government of Singapore are unable to reduce, at present, the period of quarantine against Hongkong, and that with reference to Shanghai, His Britannic Majesty's Consul-General states, in his telegraphic reply, that the quarantine imposed at the port is only a matter of an hour.

My Committee desire me to ask you to be good enough to convey to His Excellency the Governor their appreciation of the prompt action taken by him.—I have, &c.

E. A. M. WILLIAMS,  
Secretary.

Hon. Mr. A. M. Thomson,  
Colonial Secretary.

The *N.-C. Daily News* says:—The quarantine regulations imposed against Hongkong by Shanghai, Singapore and other ports in the Far East have this year caused a great outcry in the Crown Colony, presumably because it has not experienced an epidemic of plague. The Hongkong Chamber of Commerce recently requested the Governor to communicate the facts to the authorities in Shanghai and Singapore, and Sir Frederick Lugard has made telegraphic representations requesting that the restrictions be at once removed. Shanghai has been very fortunate in escaping plague; but it would be difficult to put one's finger on any definite precaution which has been taken, and say that it was due to the taking of this step that Shanghai was not visited by this dreadful scourge. Credit must be given to the system of precautions that has been enforced. This year we were threatened with an outbreak of plague from infected rats; but thanks to the vigilance of Dr. Stanley and the preventive measures followed by the Health Department under his direction we are holding our clean record. But it would be quite useless for the Municipal Council to spend money and its servants much valuable time and energy in taking all steps in their power to prevent an outbreak of plague if the Harbour authorities did not co-operate with them and try to prevent its importation. The restrictions placed on shipping are the least that can be expected in the circumstances and are, we believe, less severe than those imposed by other ports. It is difficult to see how great inconvenience and loss are annually endured by Hongkong shipping owing to the quarantine regulations at this port. No irritating restrictions are enforced; one never hears of a ship, perhaps with European passengers on board, being detained for one or two weeks. The vessel may

sometimes have to wait an hour or two for the doctor, but the duration of his inspection is short. Should there be any really suspicious case on board the suspect would be removed and everything would be done with a view to obviating any unnecessary delay or inconvenience. The restriction of trade extends to corpses, soil, plants with soil, old rags and the like, and the prohibition in the importation of such freight, while of the greatest importance from a hygienic point of view, can affect but few, financially. Hongkong, it is true, has had to submit to this declaration for many years past and no doubt she is anxious to have it removed, but there is plague in Hongkong and the number of cases is reported to be increasing. The fact that the number of cases is comparatively small may minimize the danger very much, especially in the eyes of Hongkong people, but to us a danger remains. Shanghai is entitled to take adequate precautions, but the suggestion that these restrictions are imposed against Hongkong merely as a matter of habit is entirely without foundation in fact.

## TYPHOON ALARMS.

Typhoon alarms descended on the colony again on July 19. About noon the black cone, point downwards, was hoisted indicating a typhoon to the south of Hongkong, and it was not long before the small craft began to act on the warning. Sampan and junks were seen making their way to shelter, but on this occasion a larger number than usual seemed indisposed to rely on their own efforts and sought the assistance of steam launches. One launch was noticed with fully half a hundred junks and sampans in tow and some of the others had almost as large a number. By night the green, red green lights were exhibited.

Yesterday the signals were again hoisted, indicating a typhoon to the south-west, within 300 miles of the Colony.

## OPIUM CULTIVATION IN YUNNAN.

Mr. A. Rose, the acting British Consul at Tangyueh, writes in his annual report:—

Following the Imperial edicts from Peking, a Viceregal proclamation was issued in July, 1908, at Yunnanfu, forbidding the cultivation of the poppy, and its terms were enforced by a rigid uprooting of the crop in such places as were sufficiently exposed to attract the notice of the inspecting officers. More than half the arable land of the district is reported to have been under poppy cultivation, producing crops which yielded from 300 to 400 per cent. profit. Farmers are now anxiously inquiring what can be produced on the vacant ground which will provide money to buy imports from abroad.

## MANILA AND CHOLERA.

In spite of the efforts that have been and are being made by the Bureau of Health to stay the spread of cholera in the provinces, says the *Cable News American*, the disease is slowly but surely spreading, and latest reports show that it has invaded new territory and in some cases has already secured many victims.

The report for the 13th shows six provinces and 20 pueblos infected, with a return of 166 cases and 94 deaths as compared with 46 cases on the 12th and 114 on the 11th.

No cases or deaths were reported in the city of Manila and no suspects, although the police and the sanitary inspectors of the Bureau of Health were on the lookout all day on the 13th inst. and the afternoon of the previous day for any cases of suspicious sickness.

Unannounced, but armed with the authority of the director of health, 150 sanitary inspectors, aided when needed by the police, began a house to house inspection of every dwelling in the city of Manila in order to ascertain the exact health conditions of the dwellings and their occupants. The search developed several houses that needed attention but no case of suspicious death or disease.



## SHIPPING NOTES.

The H.-A.L.S. *Nicomedia*, which left Shanghai on April 21, arrived at Rotterdam last month under the command of the second officer, owing to the captain, first officer, and several of the crew being down with typhus. The captain and chief engineer have since died.

A third steamer of the Japan Volunteer Fleet, the *Japan Gazette* says, will be constructed in the near future either at the Mitsu Bishi Yard or at the Kawasaki Yard. The *Sakura-maru* and *Umegaka-maru* of the Fleet are now actively engaged in the coasting service.

Telegrams from Osaka announce that the results obtained by the Osaka Shosen Kaisha during the half-year just ended were distinctly favourable. The Company employed 120 ships with a gross tonnage of 140,598, and its gross income was ¥6,055,261, being ¥124,040 greater than the income for the preceding term. The telegrams say nothing about dividend.

The first cargo from the Far East via the new Tehuantepec-Orient route arrived in New York on June 1 by the steamer *Lewis Luckenbach*. The steamer *Erroll*, of the Mexican-Oriental Steamship Line, Ltd., which inaugurated the new service, left Hongkong on April 8, and after calling at ports in Japan made a good passage to Salina Cruz, Mexico. Her cargo was promptly transhipped across the isthmus to Puerto Mexico and brought to New York by the connecting steamer of the American-Hawaiian Steamship Company. The time in transit through to New York was: From Hongkong, 53 days; from Kobe, 45 days; from Yokohama, 43 days. The cargo arrived in first class condition.

Lloyd's Register has just issued new rules which make radical changes respecting the construction of steel ships. The society has a long experience to guide it, and has never yet been accused of rash experiments. The aim in the present case has been to take full cognisance of modern methods of construction, and, while encouraging a saving in weight in those parts of a ship where a reduction is warranted, to assure in general the best and most scientific distribution of material and perfect riveting. The new rules concern the public to the extent that they will in some degree facilitate ship-building. Cost of construction will be slightly lessened, while at the same time there will be some increase of carrying capacity, and all consistent with safety.

By his emphatic declaration at a banquet in Washington on the 23rd ult that something must be done immediately for the establishment of a merchant marine President Taft has put new hope into the breasts of the advocates of a ship subsidy. The dinner was given by the Merchant Marine League, which is promoting a Bill for altering the tonnage taxes in favour of American ships and for providing for the admission to the American registry of foreign-built steamers of over 5,000 gross tons wholly owned by Americans, these to be restricted to foreign trade and excluded from compensation for mail service. Mr. Taft promised to do all he could to help the cause.

In a letter on the Gambling Policies Bill printed in *The Times* last month the suggestion was made that a clause be inserted excluding from the effects of the measure insurances placed when a vessel is overdue, and presumably also when a ship is known to be in trouble. This proposal, *The Times* says, has met with a fair amount of support. It was put forward disinterestedly, not on the ground of public utility, though it is perfectly reasonable to maintain that these speculative insurances fulfil a function in making a market for reinsurances proper; but on the basis that, as they scarcely leave a door open for conspiracy, and were not the cause of the Bill, they might have been left untouched. If, therefore, these transactions are made a criminal offence, it will be at the cost of some soreness, and dealers will no doubt find a means of evading the measure—a less satisfactory state of affairs than if they had been allowed some latitude. The second suggestion, namely,

that a clause should be inserted to the effect that it shall not be an offence for a person having an interest fully insured to effect a further insurance, seems to imply that the terms of the Bill are not as precise as they might be for, unless underwriters are prepared to advocate a real "revolution" in the conduct of business, there is no question of abolishing the system of separate insurances on "disbursements" and "freights." In connection with the subject of amendment, it may be useful to point out that unless the words in the Bill "any person" be taken to cover "company" and "corporation" there is nothing in the measure to prevent shipping companies, insurance companies, or even companies of adventurers from effecting gambling policies with impunity. This contingency appears to have been overlooked at the Conference at the Board of Trade, yet it is not without a precedent. Those who drafted the Bill are framing a Criminal Act affecting a technical subject, to be translated according to its literal meaning, and, therefore, full weight attaches to every word that is passed.

## SEAWORTHY OR UNSEAWORTHY.

The action of the British-American Tobacco Co., Ltd., versus the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., which was tried before Mr. Justice Bourne and a jury on October 30, 1898, has, the *N.-C. Daily News* is informed, been settled in London. The case in dispute as shown in the pleadings was that in September, 1907, the plaintiffs, delivered to the defendants 300 cases of cigarettes which were shipped at Vancouver on board the R. M. S. *Empress of China*. Subsequently to the shipment, the *Empress* sank at her mooring, owing, it was claimed by plaintiffs, to unseaworthiness; and although she was subsequently raised and pumped out the plaintiffs' goods were delivered in an unmarketable condition. Setting other questions on one side, the case turned largely upon the allegation of unseaworthiness which the defendants strenuously denied, claiming that the sinking of the *China* was due to neglect by one of the engineers in leaving open, or failing properly to close, the apertures through which water entered the engine room; and that for this neglect the defendants were not liable, as they would have been if they had loaded the goods on an unseaworthy ship. It then became a question whether the *China* had been seaworthy at the time that the lading of the cigarettes began, and had become unseaworthy at some subsequent point of time during the loading. The extreme nicety of the point needs no emphasis; and, as will be remembered, the members of the jury were unable to answer the material question which was put to them at the trial, and were thereupon discharged; and upon a subsequent motion for judgment made by the defendants, Mr. Justice Bourne declined to give judgment for either party upon such findings as were recorded by the jury. Applications for leave to appeal were subsequently made by both parties, and the plaintiff finally completed an appeal to the Privy Council for a new trial. As stated above the action has now been compromised upon terms satisfactory to the plaintiffs.

## FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES IN CHINA

In view of the fact that several foreign countries are contemplating the establishment of universities in China for the education of Chinese youths the Board of Education intends to request the Ministers abroad to inform the Ministers of Education of the countries to which they are respectively accredited that special attention should be paid to the Chinese language in all universities and colleges they have opened or are about to open in China. Unless the students pass in Chinese both at the periodical and final examinations they will not be recognized as first class men no matter how well they might have done in the other subjects, and that before students are admitted into those universities and colleges they should be first examined by the Board as to their knowledge of Chinese and character and then by the universities or colleges as to their knowledge of foreign languages, etc.—*Shanghai Times*.

## DR. OKADA ON THE CHINESE CODE.

Dr. Okada, legal adviser of the Chinese Government, who returned to Tokyo on the 3rd inst. on furlough, interviewed by a press representative, has made the following statement:—

China is now busily engaged in the arrangement preparatory to the introduction of constitutional government. The Prince Regent is paying attention with great earnestness to the establishment of the new regime and the provincial governors, too, are eagerly taking to the investigation of the subject. The Prince Regent is also making a close investigation about the unification monetary system. Of the latter subject Mr. Chien Cheng-Chih, of the Ministry of Finance, is in charge of the investigation work. I know nothing about the condition of the making of the Chinese Imperial Constitution, because I am not connected with the work. As regards the code compilation work I am connected with, the criminal code has been already completed and those concerned are at present examining the opinion sent by the provincial governors. The judiciary law has also been completed and been submitted to the consideration of the constitution compilation committee, while the police regulations have already been promulgated and are in force. The criminal procedure code is in the course of drafting and the commercial code and the civil procedure code are also being drafted, the one by Dr. Shinda and the other by Mr. Matsuoka. The civil code is to be drafted by Mr. Matsuoka on the completion of the civil procedure law. The date of above laws coming into force was prefixed at next year, but it is likely to be postponed for some time. Those several codes compiled under my supervision are in the main based on the spirit of Japanese laws, but there exists some difference in their aspect betwixt the Chinese laws and Japanese. Particulars about these matters will be made public shortly.

Dr. Okada has brought back several thousands of old rare curios collected in China. Among them there are about a hundred small statues of gold and copper made in the period as old as the six dynasties (rikuchō), namely, Wu, East Hsin, Sung, Chi, Liang, and Chen, and Sui and Tang down to the Ming dynasty. Some of them are of rare value, the like of which is seldom found in this country.—*Japan Times*

## AUTOMOBILES IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

Consul John H. Snodgrass, of Kobe, says Japan is unsuited for automobiles and carriages because of the narrowness of the city streets and the country roads, where the average track is only 33 ins. wide for jinrikishas; also because the driveways are limited to the cities, where the streets are continually filled with pedestrians and playing children, making it a hazardous undertaking to attempt driving a car through those sections. Besides, the Japanese do not take to automobiles. Until, therefore, there is a complete change in the construction of roadways and the widening of city streets, automobiles in Japan will be limited to a few enthusiasts of foreign proclivities. Furthermore, the tariff duty of 50 per cent. is almost prohibitive. Consul Roger S. Greene, of Dalny, believes that a motor-car business may be worked up in that part of China. Most of the roads in the city are now in good condition, having been newly macadamised. Outside of the city limits the roads are not suitable for motoring. Consul B. S. Rairden, of Batavia, states that within the last two years sales of motor cars have rapidly increased in Batavia. The agent for an American car company reports that he sold over 100 cars in twenty months. The machine he handles is a small one, selling for about \$2,000. Minister Hamilton King, of Bangkok, reports that Siam offers one of the most promising fields for the development of a motor-car trade.

One of two Greek prisoners extradited from Singapore to Saigon jumped overboard when nearing Saigon and swam the river. A search was instituted and it was found he had taken refuge in a tree. Hunger, however, brought him down and he fell into the hands of the police.



## CONSULAR REPORTS.

## THE SUGAR INDUSTRY IN FORMOSA.

From the Report for the year 1908 on the trade of the Consular district of Tainan (South Formosa) by Mr. A. E. Wileman, H. B. M.'s Consul, we take the following references to the sugar market and the factories:—

"The following table shows the quantity and value of raw sugar exported to Japan and China and Hongkong respectively during 1908:—

|                    | cwts.     | value.   |
|--------------------|-----------|----------|
| Japan              | 1,186,699 | £926,345 |
| China and Hongkong | 1,752     | £ 1,580  |
|                    | 1,188,451 | £927,925 |

This shows an increase of 133,044 cwts. and £193,344 on the figures for 1907.

In the trade report for 1907 the sugar market was reviewed up to the end of the month of February, 1908, for the season 1907-8. After the new consumption law tax came into force in February, 1908, the market declined from 8 yen 35 sen (17s. 0½d.) early in March to 8 yen (16s. 4d.) per picul (132½ lbs.) for Siogtau towards the end of the month, but rose again on account of rumours of shortage of stock in Japan to 8 yen 90 sen (18s. 2.) per picul in the middle of April and closed in June, 1908, at 8 yen 40 sen (17s. 1½d.).

The 1907-08 crop has been one of fairly steady prices and is notable for the shortage of low-grade sugars, the production having been mainly of high-grade brown sugars which realised 80 sen (1s. 7½d.) per picul higher than Siogtau, and at one time, owing to the shortage of the latter quality, the difference was reduced to only 60 sen (1s. 2½d.) per picul between the two grades. The higher grade is known as "Chut Lui," that is, "above grade." The foundation of purchases is usually Siogtau and so much more is paid for the "above grade" and so much less for the lower grades, hence the expression "above" meaning above the ordinary grades. Exporters did only a steady commission business and large profits were not made. The Chinese factories only did moderately well owing to the higher consumption tax paid. At an average price of 8 yen 50 sen (17s. 4½d.) for Siogtau the millers only get a net amount of 5 yen (10s. 2½d.) as 3 yen (6s. 1½d.) must be deducted for the tax and 50 sen (1s. 0½d.) for transportation expenses to the merchants' godowns. From the 5 yen per picul net at the factory, the millers must pay about 2 yen 30 sen (4s. 8½d.) per picul for expenses of manufacturing, leaving 2 yen 70 sen (5s. 6d.) for themselves and the farmers, the latter getting from 2 yen 39 sen (4s. 10½d.) to 2 yen 50 sen (5s. 1½d.) per picul for their cane.

The 1908-09 crop opened in November 1908, at 8 yen 60 sen (17s. 6½d.) per picul and rapidly rose to 9 yen 60 sen (19s. 7d.) in December, owing to rumours of greatly decreased quantities of brown sugars, caused by the starting of the many new centrifugal factories which absorbed the cane hitherto supplied to the brown sugar mills. Large quantities of centrifugal sugars were also sold ahead by the various factories at prices ranging from 12 yen 50 sen (11. 5s. 6½d.) per picul to 13 yen (11. 6s. 6½d.) per picul c.f.i. Yokohama, or 1 yen (2s. 0½d.) less ex factory, the factory paying the consumption tax. It was at first estimated that the crop, which is a record one, would yield only 600,000 piculs (35,714 tons) of brown sugars and 900,000 piculs (53,571 tons) of centrifugals, and as from this 600,000 piculs, about 300,000 piculs (17,857 tons) have to be deducted for local consumption, it will be readily understood that there was some cause for the apprehension which caused the rise in price. However, when it was found that although all the new mills were practically finished and had started work in December, they could not work to their full capacity owing to the occurrence of minor troubles incidental to the running of new machinery, and that consequently most of the mills were obliged to give up part of their cane to the Chinese farmers to crush in their brown factories, prices receded to 8 yen 50 sen (17s. 4½d.) per picul, at which they have remained steady up to the middle of March, 1909. The revised estimates now give an expected

exportation of 600,000 piculs (35,714 tons) of brown sugar and 700,000 piculs (41,666 tons) of centrifugals, leaving 300,000 piculs (7,857 tons) of brown for local consumption out of a total estimated crop of 1,600,000 piculs (95,238 tons). The advent of the two principal Japanese importers of sugar in South Formosa has made trade very difficult for the foreign merchant for this crop (1908-09), as these two firms were the principal to whom the foreign firms used to sell their holdings. As these two firms are in keen competition with each other margins have been so cut down that the foreign firms could hardly enter into competition with them even for making their own shipments, and so far as one can prophecy the days of the foreign commission merchant would appear to be numbered. The two principal products handled by the foreign merchants have of recent years been confined to sugar and rice, but as these two Japanese firms, as well as a number of less important Japanese firms, all handle both products and appear to be willing to out-advance the foreigners as well as outbid them in price, business for the foreigners will either have to be speculative or confined to imports, which again have dwindled to very limited proportions and are confined to only a few articles. Of course there will be machinery and accessories usually required by large sugar factories, and the foreign firms will have to reorganise their staffs in order to cope with the new trade whilst giving up the old one.

## SUGAR FACTORIES.

The following notes concerning the principal sugar factories in South Formosa show the progress made during 1908:—

Taiwan Seito Kaisha (Taiwan Sugar Company).—This company has duly completed the three new mills in course of construction during 1908, and referred to in the report for 1907, and sugar crushing was commenced in December, 1908. These mills are situated at Kyoshito (460 tons, short, in 24 hours), Koshiken (1,000 tons, short, in 23 hours) and Ako (1,200 tons, short, in 23 hours). In 1908 the company purchased two large sets of steam ploughing tackle composed of four engines of 24 horse-power each for use in the Koshiken district, thus making four sets now in use in that district, and 2,000 acres have already been ploughed for the next crop. A number of locomotives have been imported from the United States for plantation purposes, and 90 miles of permanent and portable railway and trolley line have been laid during the year; 400 Japanese immigrants have also been engaged from Japan for work on the plantation at Koshiken for a period of three years, and more will be engaged for the plantation at Ako.

Dai Nippon Seito Kaisha (Dai Nippon Sugar Company).—The mill in course of construction for this company at Gokenseki, near Tarimu (1,200 tons, in 23 hours), alluded to in the report for 1907, has been duly completed and commenced crushing operations in December, 1908.

Tayo Seito Kaisha.—The mill situated at Suikutsuto, near Kagi (1,000 tons, long, in 22 hours), alluded to in the report for 1907, was completed and commenced crushing in December, 1908. The estimated crop of cane for the season is about 88,000 tons, of which 18,000 tons have already been crushed (February, 1909), the sugar obtained amounting to about 1,800 tons. The permanent railway line of 47 miles and all bridges are now completed. The rolling-stock consists of 300 wagons; and at present five locomotives are employed, one of 50 horse-power and four of 40 horse-power. Another locomotive and 50 additional wagons will shortly arrive. The water supply for the factory is obtained from the River Hatsoke, from whence it will be pumped to the reservoirs by two electrically driven centrifugal pumps, each capable of discharging 30,000 gallons of water per hour. At present an oil engine of 20 horse-power and two 6-inch centrifugal pumps are temporarily employed.

Meiji Seito Kaisha (Meiji Sugar Company).—The mill near Banshiden railway station, in course of construction during 1908 and alluded to in the report for 1907, was completed in November, 1908. It is expected to produce

110,000 piculs (6,547 tons) of sugar during the season.

The second mill owned by this company in course of erection at Sumtau, near Cagi (750 tons in 22 hours), will not be completed until November, 1909.

Ensuike Seisha.—The mill in course of construction during 1908 (850 tons, short, in 24 hours), situated at Shinyeisho, was completed in December, 1908. The extension of the old mill situated at Ensuike, which has been enlarged from a capacity of 400 tons, short, in 24 hours to 600 tons, short, in 24 hours, has also been duly completed.

Formosan Sugar and Development Company, formerly known as the Hing-Hoat Sugar Company, situated at San-kan-ten.—This British company was registered in London on January 18, 1908, with a capital of 80,000£, divided into 60,000£ of 6 per cent. cumulative preference shares and 20,000£ ordinary shares. The new capital obtained has been utilised to enlarge the plant from 350 to 700 tons of cane per day, and the new machinery was completed on February 3, 1909, although crushing was started with the old plant about the middle of December, 1908. The factory is expected to produce this crop (1908-09), about 55,000 piculs (3,273 tons) of sugar as compared with 14,714 piculs (875 tons) for 1907-08 crop. On account of the enlargement of the plant before mentioned, the cane-buying district has been increased by about 5,000 acres, and it is expected that in the crop for 1909-10 the production will be nearly 100,000 piculs (5,952 tons).

The water supply is obtained by damming the river close by and no pumps are used, the water being led by a pipe to the well near the condenser pumps, a great advantage where a large quantity of water is required for the condensers. The trolley line is 22 miles in length, with a rolling-stock of 265 cars, each taking 2½ tons of cane. The gauge is 24 inches instead of 30 inches, which is the gauge adopted by the majority of Formosan factories. Three locomotives have been purchased to arrive in time for the 1909-10 crop. It may be mentioned that the facilities for transportation are most favourable. The mill is situated in such a position relative to the cane that there is a gradual gradient in its favour so that not much power is necessary to transport the cane to the mill. The transport of sugar to Anping for export is effected by the river and costs only 5 sen (1½d.) per bag. The total cane area is now over 10,000 acres, and, judging from the figures already quoted, the company has already made great progress in bringing land under cultivation. It is calculated that the district worked by this company will yield in three years' time 10,000 tons of sugar. The price obtained from the sugar is 13 yen (11. 6s. 6½d.) per picul, only one grade of sugar being manufactured. Experiments are being conducted with a view to making brown sugar from the residual molasses, and it has been proved that this can be done, but some modification of the present experiment plant is necessary and will be installed later on.

Hokuto Sugar Mill.—Owned by Bain and Company, a British firm. This was originally a small 100-ton brown sugar mill, and it was intended to enlarge and convert it into a 240-ton centrifugal mill during 1909. The Sugar Bureau, however, have arranged for the incorporation of the district belonging to this mill within the district of a large new mill of from 700 to 800 tons crushing capacity, which is to be erected by a Formosan-Chinese financier. Compensation will be paid to the British firm for the machinery already installed, and the Sugar Bureau has allotted to them another district near Takow in exchange. In this new district the British firm will install the new machinery which has been purchased for Hokuto and will also purchase the necessary additional machinery required for a mill crushing 300 tons of cane per 22 hours to produce centrifugal sugar. This new mill at Takow will be completed by November, 1909, in time for the 1909-10 crop, which is estimated to produce 30,000 piculs (1,785 tons).

Singapore wishes to have the example of Hongkong followed in providing more facilities for giving alarms of fire.



## CORRESPONDENCE.

## THE TYPHOON SIGNAL AT MACAO.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—A paragraph inserted in your issue of to-day stated that the typhoon signal was hoisted at Macao at the Harbourmaster's during yesterday and that apparently no indication of bad weather was forthcoming. The signal hoisted did not indicate the position or direction of any typhoon: it was simply an informative signal that something might happen. Now we see the black cone just hoisted at the Hongkong Observatory justifies the signal at Macao. The coming typhoon is now within 300 miles of the colony and possibly the Macao Harbourmaster smelled it.—Yours,

ANTI-ROX.

Hongkong, July 19th.

## THE NEW OPIUM EVIL.

SIR,—There are many well meaning persons who entertain the idea that an evil can suddenly be uprooted without the danger of another, and perhaps a worse, evil growing up in its place. It is the idea on which the whole anti-opium propaganda has been based, but the public has only to read the summary of Sir Alexander Hosie's latest report on the anti-opium movement, which appears in this morning's *Daily Press*, to learn how fallacious the idea really is.

A large business has already developed in China in the sale of compounds advertised as "cures" for the opium habit, constituting an evil far more disastrous to the physical and moral well-being of the people of China than the habit of smoking unadulterated opium which it is the avowed object of the Chinese Government to suppress. The native opium as it often comes into the market—adulterated with deleterious ingredients—is far more injurious to the smoker than the pure drug sold by the Government of India under whose supervision it is examined, weighed packed and shipped abroad.

No antidote has yet been discovered which can cure the drunkard, and it will be found in China that there is no sudden cure for the opium smoker. The so-called "cures" which are now being so extensively sold are recognised by all observers as producing worse effects than the disease—Yours, &c.

D. S. G.

Hongkong, July 20th.

## MARRIAGE OF MISS PHYLLIS DODWELL.

Miss Phyllis Dodwell, youngest daughter of Mr. George B. Dodwell, head of the well-known firm of Dodwell and Co., was married at Watford on the 24th ult. to Mr. Vernon Parry Kitchen, M. A., Cantab, eldest son of the late Rev. J. G. Kitchen, M. A., and Mrs. Kitchen, formerly of "The Priory," Watford. The marriage service was conducted by the Rev. Canon Erskine Clarke, M. A., Vicar of Battersea, and Hon. Chaplain to H. M. the King, assisted by the Rev. Canon David Reith, M. A., Vicar of St. Andrews, and by the Rev. Walter Weston, M. A., Vicar of Ewell, and formerly Chaplain of the English Church in Kobe, Japan.

## CHINESE NAVAL CONSTRUCTION.

## GERMAN OFFERS.

The Berlin correspondent of the *London Globe* writes:—

Dispatches received here privately from Peking indicate that German offers in connection with the proposed naval construction are being well received by the authorities. Tenders have already been received by the Government from fourteen foreign firms, representative of Germany, Great Britain, France, and the United States; but there appears to be good reason for stating that Germany will obtain, at any rate, a large portion of the work. It is as yet uncertain exactly how much money it is proposed to spend on the new Fleet.

## TRADE IN SHANTUNG.

The following passages are taken from a report by Acting Consul Giles on the trade of Shantung in 1908:—

The partial failure of the crops reacted very severely on trade, which suffered further from the fall in the price of silver, combined with the appreciation of the latter *vis-à-vis* of the copper coinage; the silver tael fetched at one time no less than 3,100 cash in Wei-hsien, and 3,800 cash in I-hsien, and it was correspondingly high in other parts of the province of Shantung. This grievously affected the poor people, who make all their purchases in copper. To add to their distress, money was very tight everywhere, and prices rose considerably; consequently, the bulk of the population experienced the greatest difficulty in making both ends meet.

## FINANCIAL CRISIS.

Numbers of firms in the chief trade marts of the province, finding themselves unable to do a profitable business, shut down. Over 90 are said to have been closed in Wei-hsien alone, and some 190 in Choutsun; a similar state of affairs prevailed in the smaller trade centres.

The crisis severely affected the native banks, five or six of which in Wei-hsien, where the monetary stringency was most keenly felt, went bankrupt. The biggest failure was that of a wealthy and powerful establishment, which dealt in piece-goods, cotton yarn, provisions and cloths, and had widespread ramifications throughout the province. The liabilities amounted to nearly \$250,000 (about £41,600): considerable difficulty was experienced in realising what assets there were; a settlement had not been effected at the end of March last, nor is one likely to be for some time to come. Meanwhile confidence has not yet been restored, and trade remains stagnant. The prevailing depression made itself felt at Yang-chiao-kou on the Gulf of Chihli, hitherto a very flourishing port. The imports and exports, with the exception of duty-free grain, fell off enormously in the latter half of the year, and the Customs receipts diminished accordingly.

## TIENSIN-PUKOW RAILWAY.

The preliminary arrangements in connection with the Tientsin-Pukow Railway progressed steadily during 1908. Not only have the surveys been completed in the province of Shantung but nearly all the land required between Chinan and the Shantung Chihli border has been thrown up between Chinan and Lok'ou on the Yellow River. Work on the most important piece of engineering on the line—the Yellow River bridge—which is in the hands of the Nurnberger Bridge Building Company, is also being commenced. The total length of the bridge with approaches will be about 2 kiloms.; in the river bed itself there will be four iron supports, making five spans across the river; in addition to this there are to be 17 culverts of an average width of 70 to 80 metres. South of Chinan, work has not yet begun, but the engineers have been carefully surveying the line of route, and work is to be taken in hand this spring.

## PROPOSED RAILWAY FROM WEI-HSIEN TO CHEFOO.

The project for linking up Wei-hsien on the China-Tsingtau line with Chefoo by rail has been definitely sanctioned, the gentry and merchants of the districts to be traversed having been permitted to raise funds for the purpose. It was originally intended that the line should be built exclusively by Chinese labour with Chinese capital, but owing to the difficulty of getting funds the question of a foreign loan has recently been raised. A start is to be made with the eastern section of the line from Chefoo to Hung-hsien, and the necessary surveys have been taken in hand. The construction of such a line, says Mr. Giles, would undoubtedly be a great boon to Chefoo, which has long been hampered in its competition with Tsingtau, by the lack of railway communication.

## COTTON GROWING EXPERIMENTS.

Cotton is largely grown in the province of Shantung, and the authorities have recently turned their attention to the development of this industry. Experiments have been made during the past two years with five varieties of American cotton seeds, especially in the Tung-chang prefecture, with varying success, though

the results are said to be satisfactory on the whole. The experiments are to be continued, a grant of Tls. 1,500 (about £200) having again been made in 1908 from the Provincial Exchequer for the purchase of American seeds.

## SPINNING AND WEAVING.

In addition to those already established in the province of Shantung, a new cotton spinning and cloth weaving factory was opened in 1908 in Chi-mo-hsien, not far from Tsingtau. Gins, looms and other machinery of modern make have been purchased abroad, and 20 apprentices have been specially indentured to study foreign manufacturing methods. The raw material is to be drawn exclusively from the province.

## COAL MINING.

As regards native-worked coal mines after those in the Poshan Valley, those in the I-hou prefecture are the most important in the province of Shantung. The Chunghsing Company, previously known as the German-Chinese Mining Company, with a capital of \$2,000,000 (about £167,000) which works coal mines in I-hsien, is the principal concern. Its mines produce about 300 tons of coal daily. The German capital invested only amounts to about \$42,000 altogether, and it is to be gradually repaid until the capital is solely Chinese; the name of the company was also altered during the past year, the word German being eliminated. A German loan of m.800,000 (about £39,300) has, however, recently been contracted for the purchase of rolling-stock. In Lanshan-hsien the natives also do a considerable amount of primitive coal mining every year between October and March, at which latter date the water floods their shafts and they are compelled to cease operations for lack of pumping machinery. The industry has now been taken in hand by local capitalists intent upon reorganising and developing it, capital to the amount of about \$18,000 (over £1,500) having been subscribed. Should the enterprise prosper, it is proposed later on to purchase proper machinery and to extend operations further. There are at present 30 shafts, old and new, of which two are being profitably worked.

## STRAW BRAID.

Mr. R. H. Eckford, Consular Agent at Tsingtau, reporting on the trade of that district, in 1908 notes that Shantung straw has been exported somewhat freely, its destination being Ningpo, where it is made up into hats. The continuance of this trade depends on the vagaries of fashion. It is reported that the Chefoo native merchants have organised a syndicate for the production of plait from straw grown in that neighbourhood, and that it is proposed to bring some families from Pingtu and Shaho to teach plaiting. Samples have been shown at Tsingtau, and the qualities appear to be satisfactory. No foreigners are to be allowed to participate.

## SHIPPING.

The Indo-China Steam Navigation Company carried on a regular service between Tsingtau and Shanghai during 1908, and the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company inaugurated a regular monthly service, the steamers calling at Tsingtau en route from Japan to Shanghai, and proceeding thence via the usual ports to London; this afforded merchants the immense advantage of getting their goods forwarded to European ports without transhipment, thus saving much expense and damage. It need scarcely be said that this facility is much appreciated and will tend to the development of Tsingtau.

## THE HANKOW-SZECHUAN RAILWAY.

## GERMANY AND THE UNITED STATES.

The *North-German Gazette* gives great prominence to the following *Cologne Gazette* telegram from Washington:—

President Taft and the State Department recognize that nothing but German friendliness has made possible the American success in regard to the Chinese railway loan, and they express unfeigned pleasure about it. The President received the German Ambassador, Count Bernstorff, in special audience. It is believed that the German attitude will affect the negotiations for a treaty of commerce.



## FAR EASTERN QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT.

SIR ROBERT HART.

Mr W. Redmond (Clare, E., Nat.) asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if he had any information as to the appointment of a successor to Sir Robert Hart in China, or whether it was the intention of Sir Robert Hart to continue in the office.

Sir E. Grey.—I understand that Sir Robert Hart has applied to the Chinese Government for a year's extension of leave, and for the present, therefore, I have no information to give as regards the appointment of a successor to his post.

Major Anstruther-Gray (St. Andrews Burghs, Opp.).—Are we to understand that the Chinese Government have furnished no information as to who is to succeed Sir Robert Hart, temporarily I mean, during his leave?

Sir E. Grey.—There is somebody acting, and he has been acting for a year, while Sir Robert Hart has been away.

## OPIUM AND GAMBLING DENS IN NORTH BORNEO.

Mr. T. C. Taylor (Lancashire, S.E. Radcliffe, Min.) asked the Under Secretary for the Colonies whether it was with the sanction of the Secretary of State that the Government of North Borneo had recently advertised for tenders for the farming out for the years 1910, 1911 and 1912 of licences, not only for the sale of spirits and pawnbroking, but also for the carrying on of opium dens and gambling houses; and whether he would take steps at once to prevent the issue of new licences on opium dens and gambling houses.

Colonel Seely (Liverpool, Abercromby, Min.)—No, Sir; the Secretary of State has no official cognizance of the subject matter of the question, and has certainly given no sanction to anything of the kind. The territory of North Borneo is in reality governed by a company, and I gather that the charter of incorporation would not preclude that company from advertising for tenders for the farming of opium.

Mr. T. C. Taylor asked whether steps could be taken to prevent the licensing by British Colonies of the businesses of opium and gambling dens.

Colonel Seely said it was a difficult matter to decide exactly how far the Government had power. But the question was too large to deal with by means of question and answer.

Mr. C. Wason (Orkney and Shetland, Min.). Are the Governors appointed by the Colonial Office?

Colonel Seely said he did not know how the question stood, but our control was more limited than in the case of an ordinary Colony.

Mr. Smeaton (Stirlingshire, Min.).—Is it the case that the opium farmer and the lessee of the gambling dens are one and the same person?

Colonel Seely.—I do not know.

## THE IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS.

The following list of recent transfers in the service was made up to June 28th:—

E. Bernadsky, Assistant, Harbin, transferred to Peking.

A. W. Holstein, Tientsin, transferred to Harbin.

A. P. S. Moss, Newchwang, transferred to Tientsin.

J. W. Richardson, Kiukiang, transferred to Amoy as acting Deputy Commissioner.

A. Machie, Shanghai, transferred to Kiukiang.

C. A. McAllum, Hankow, transferred to Canton, as acting Deputy Commissioner. (out door.)

S. F. Grainger, returned from leave, transferred to Shanghai.

J. Steinacher, Harbin, to be acting tide-surveyor, Harbin.

J. Lourreiro, Shanghai, transferred to Mentsz.

F. W. Rowland, assistant examiner, Ningpo, to be examiner, Ningpo.

E. A. Strehlneck assistant examiner, Tientsin to be examiner, Harbin.

G. W. R. McKie, transferred from Mentsz to Shanghai.

## FOREIGNER KIDNAPPED.

BRIGANDAGE BECOMING SERIOUS IN TONKIN.

Painful news from Tonkin reached Saigon on the 6th inst., when word came that M. Voisin, a prominent French resident at Hanoi, had just been kidnapped by brigands, who had sent a message that they would strike off his head at the first shot fired at them. The Government retorted by holding several leading brigand prisoners as security for the life of the captive. The brigands belonged to the bands of De-Tham, a famous outlaw chieftain. A party of outlaws commanded by Carinh, one of De-Tham's sons, waylaid M. Voisin who was passing in a ricksha. He offered a stout resistance and killed a brigand with a revolver shot. The brigands soon overpowered and bound him. The puller was bounded but escaped with his life. M. Voisin was carried off, his captors allowing him to write to the nearest official.

Shortly afterwards, two other foreign residents passed by the scene of the outrage in a motor car, and had a narrow escape from capture. They were fired upon by the outlaws. The brigands and their captive soon disappeared. These events aroused a tremendous sensation at Hanoi, where, on the 6th inst., a public meeting was held to consider the situation. About 400 persons attended and it was unanimously decided to establish a league for the protection of French interests. A resolution was also passed calling upon the government to take sharp measures for the liberation of M. Voisin and for rooting out brigandage utterly.

The situation is indeed such as to arouse intense public indignation. Early this year, troops moved into the brigand country and hunted the outlaws down. But soon the home government shrank from stern measures and would not hear of shooting the brigands down. It was decided to surround the outlaws and starve them out. The outlaws retreated into the wilds, and bided their time which soon came when the troops were withdrawn, and many outposts were evacuated. This was done to show that order had been restored in Upper Tonkin. De Tham and his men have proved the contrary by sallying out of their fastnesses, and raiding the neighbourhood.

## A COSTLY AMERICAN HOLIDAY.

An urgent need of a definite control and wise direction of the popular use of the Fourth of July is emphasized by William Orr, in the *Atlantic*. He quotes the following figures from the *Chicago Tribune* as eloquent in their warning, telling their own story of an insensate and reckless abuse of the day's privileges:

|      | Dead. | Wounded. |
|------|-------|----------|
| 1908 | 72    | 2730     |
| 1907 | 58    | 3807     |
| 1906 | 51    | 3551     |
| 1905 | 59    | 3169     |
| 1904 | 58    | 3049     |
| 1903 | 52    | 3865     |
| 1902 | 31    | 2796     |
| 1901 | 35    | 1803     |
| 1900 | 50    | 2707     |
| 1899 | 33    | 1742     |
|      | 308   | 29,085   |

That these statistics, gathered by July 6th, are below the real totals is seen from the tabulations of the Journal of the American Medical Association made in August, when tetanus has had time to do its dire work:

|      | Dead. | Wounded. | Tot. | Tetanus. |
|------|-------|----------|------|----------|
| 1908 | 163   | 5460     | 5623 | 55       |
| 1907 | 164   | 4249     | 4413 | 62       |
| 1906 | 158   | 5308     | 5466 | 75       |
| 1905 | 182   | 4994     | 5176 | 87       |
| 1904 | 183   | 3986     | 4169 | 91       |
| 1903 | 466   | 3983     | 4449 | 406      |

Totals 1316 27980 29296 776  
Surely the sorrow, suffering and mutilation here represented, Mr. Orr concludes, mock the claim that July Fourth, as at present observed, is in any sense a festal day; rather is it a day of terror, anxiety and dread.

## FAR EASTERN TELEGRAMS.

### JAPANESE MINISTER TO AMERICA RECALLED.

Tokyo, July 24th.

Baron Takahira, the Japanese Minister at Washington, has been recalled, and is en route for Japan.

### THE STRIKE IN HAWAII.

Tokyo, July 20th.

The strike situation in Hawaii is becoming worse.

The Japanese Consul, in attempting to reason with the strikers, was roughly handled.

### FORCED MARCHES IN JAPAN

A HEAVY CASUALTY LIST.

Tokyo, July 20th.

Twelve deaths have occurred, and hundreds of soldiers have been invalided, as the result of forced summer marches by regiments in various parts of the country.

### JAPANESE CAPITAL INVESTED IN CHINA.

A well-known journalist Mr. Ishikawa Yasujiro, formerly editor of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, has just returned to Tokyo from a visit to China, where he collected some interesting information. The *Keizai Zasshi* quotes him as saying that in order to be as well furnished as Japan, proportionately, with means of communication China must have 60,000 miles of railway, or about ten times the mileage now in operation in Japan, whereas she has only 3,000. Inasmuch, however, as foreign capitalists are competing keenly to obtain railway concessions and are evidently willing to invest large sums in this kind of enterprise, China will be probably well supplied before many years have passed. Mr. Ishikawa found that wherever he went in China Japanese subjects constituted a large element of the foreign population. Thus at Tientsin there are 1,800 Japanese; at Peking 8,000; at Hankow 1,500; and at Shanghai 7,000. If they are conspicuous by their number, however, they are also conspicuous by their comparative poverty. Thus in Shanghai, although out of a total foreign population of 14,500 the Japanese aggregate 7,000, there are only 100 among them who pay rates qualifying them to vote at the election of members of the Municipal Council. It results that Japan is wholly unrepresented on that body. As for capital invested by Japanese, there also the figures are discouraging. The principal enterprises with which they are concerned are not numerous. In the Tara iron mine they have about 3 million yen. This money is to be repaid with ore taken from the mine during 30 years, 5 or 6 of which have already passed. Again in the Hanyang Foundry the Specie Bank has 2 million and the Mitsui Firm one million, but as 300,000 of the latter sum has been paid back, the amount actually outstanding is only 2,700,000. In the Ping-Hsiang colliery the Okura Company has sunk 1,200,000 yen, and altogether, including Shanghai, Hankow and other trade centres, Japanese investments in China probably aggregate 20 million yen. Contrasting these figures with the fact that France and England are about to invest from 30 to 40 million yen in the Yeh-Han and other railways in the Yangtze valley, it is evident that Japan cannot hope to take her due share of Chinese commerce without sinking much larger sums of capital.

The year 1908 was not a prosperous one for mining in Malaya owing to the low prices prevailing for tin.

Prince Ching is using his best endeavours to raise money for the relief of the distressed people in Kansu. Besides subscribing five thousand taels himself, he has asked Princes Su and Li and other distinguished men to subscribe according to their means and has proposed to form a Relief Committee in Peking to raise subscriptions from all classes of the community.



## OPIUM SMOKING.

## HOW IT IS BEING SUPPRESSED IN CHINA.

A further report by Sir Alexander Hosie respecting the opium question in China was published in London last month as a White Paper.

Two years have elapsed, the report says, since the issue of the anti-opium decree and the promulgation of the anti-opium regulations, and, although advices recently received from the provinces are somewhat conflicting in regard to the execution of the measures devised for suppression, there can be no doubt that, in spite of the absence of any well-organised uniform scheme for accomplishing the task, much is being done, and, in some cases, perhaps too much is being attempted in too short a time with the machinery available for the purpose.

As regards anti-opium medicines, their number is legion. They are of native and foreign manufacture, and many of them contain opium or morphia in varying quantities. The husk of the foreign opium ball made up into pills is also sold as a cure, and most of the reports from the provinces draw attention to the serious evil which these so-called remedies are creating—an evil far worse than the disease they are advertised to cure.

Opium smokers are in many cases becoming opium or morphia eaters, and developing a craving which is still more difficult to eradicate. Anti-opium societies are also much in evidence, and, although some doubt is thrown on their efficacy, they are said to be of assistance to the police authorities in unearthing breaches of the regulations.

One of these societies in the Canton province offers small monetary prizes to smokers who break off the habit through the use of the medicines which it supplies, but it is careful to add that proof must be forthcoming that claimants for the prizes were actually smokers.

Complaints have been made regarding the high rents in the French Concession at Shanghai and a number of Chinese firms recently petitioned the Viceroy showing that in these times of trade depression they find it impossible to bear the high rents in the Settlements and that the property owners in the French Concession have absolutely refused to make any reduction, and praying that the Shanghai Taotai may be instructed to again request the French Consul to persuade the house owners to reduce the rents. Viceroy Tuan Fang has made the following rescript:—"Considering that exchange is so low and trade so bad in Shanghai at present, what is set forth in your petition is undoubtedly true. You have already petitioned the Shanghai Taotai to request the French Consul to advise the house owners to reduce the rents and the Shanghai Taotai is hereby instructed to consider the best method of again approaching the French Consul and the Courts with the request that the circumstances be put clearly to the house owners, both foreign and Chinese, and a reduction of the rents be effected in the interests of trade."

## COMMERCIAL

## IMPORTS:—

## COAL.

HONGKONG, July 23rd.—The arrivals of coal since the 10th inst. amounted to 46,361 tons of Japanese, 3,000 tons Hongkong and 2,200 Haiphong. The coal expected is 42,900 tons Japanese, 3,900 tons Hongkong, 4,000 tons Borneo, 10,000 Wales and 7,700 tons North China. Quotations according to Messrs Hughes and Hough's circular are as follows:—

Cardiff.....\$21.0 to 22.50 ex-godown, nominal.  
Australian...\$10.50 to 12.50 ex-godown, nominal.  
Yubari Lump...\$12.00 Nominal.  
Miiki Lump...\$10.50 to 11.00 ex-ship, nominal.  
Moji Lump.....\$7.75 to \$9.50 ex-ship, steady.  
Moji Unscreened...\$6.00 to \$8.00 ex-ship, steady.  
Akaike Lump...\$8.75 to \$9.00 ex-ship, steady.  
Labuan Lump...\$9.00 ex-ship sellers.

## RICE.

HONGKONG, 23rd July:—There is not much change in the quotation of the market.

|                                    |        |    |        |
|------------------------------------|--------|----|--------|
| Saigon, Ordinary .....             | \$4.80 | to | \$4.85 |
| " Round, Good quality ...          | 4.85   | to | 4.90   |
| " Long.....                        | 4.95   | to | 5.00   |
| Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2... | 5.05   | to | 5.10   |
| " Garden, " No. 1...               | 4.90   | to | 4.95   |
| " White.....                       | 5.10   | to | 5.15   |
| " Fine Cargo.....                  | 5.20   | to | 5.20   |

## OPIUM.

HONGKONG, July 22nd.—Since the 8th inst. the movements in the various Opium markets have been as follows:—

|                                    | Malwa. | Patna. | Benares. | Persian |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------|----------|---------|
| Stocks on the 8th July, 1909—2,395 | 2,492  | 1,030  | 467      |         |
| July 15th Imports per G. Apear—    | 205    | 50     | —        |         |
| " 16th " " E. Simons—              | 150    | 50     | —        |         |
| " 20th " " C. Apca—                | 125    | —      | —        |         |
| " 21st " " Delhi—                  | 175    | —      | 17       |         |

2,395 3,147 1,130 483

|                                                                                           |    |     |     |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-----|-----|----|
| Less Exports to Shanghai ..                                                               | 24 | 90  | 100 | —  |
| Less Exports to East and West Coast Ports including Local Consumption for the fortnight.. | 99 | 501 | 232 | 30 |

Estimated Stocks this day .. 2,272 2,246 798 447

Bengal.—Low prices, an improvement in the consumption and moderate stock in the hand of the dealers have kept this market fairly active during the period under review. Closing quotations are Patna \$245. New Benares \$970.

Malwa.—The market is quiet. Only a small sales of soft new \$1,125.- 2/3 years at \$1,140.- and 3/4 years at \$1,150, are reported.

Persian.—Superior square cakes owing to their scarcity have fetched \$1,100. We quote superior long cakes at \$1,050/70.

HONGKONG, July, 23rd.

Quotations are:—

|                            |               |            |
|----------------------------|---------------|------------|
| Malwa New .....            | \$1,125/1,150 | per picul. |
| Malwa Old .....            | \$1,160/1,200 | do.        |
| Malwa Older .....          | \$1,210/1,240 | do.        |
| Malwa Very Old .....       | \$1,250/1,300 | do.        |
| Persian Fine Quality ..... | \$1,080/1,100 | do.        |
| Persian Extra Fine .....   | \$950/1,000   | do.        |
| Patna New .....            | \$947         | per chest. |
| Patna Old .....            | \$--          | do.        |
| Benares New .....          | \$972         | do.        |
| Benares Old .....          | \$972         | do.        |

## PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co. in their Piece Goods Report, dated Shanghai 16th July, 1909, state:—The rain has ceased and is succeeded by fine hot weather, which should be beneficial to the crops that have been saved. Unfortunately it is feared that the Rice Crop in many districts will be ruined by floods, as it has to be planted on low lying land, in which case it will be very bad for trade, as a return to abnormal prices will be permanently made again. Hankow is threatened with an overflow of the Yangtze, the water being within a few feet of the previous highest level although this is fully a month earlier than usual. This natural causes much anxiety and gives little encouragement to any one to anticipate requirements. Business, therefore, continues on the hand to month basis, the activity of last week being followed by a distinct lull, this being especially noticeable in American makes. Free shipments have gone up to the Northern markets recently and it is the desire naturally before operating further to see how these former purchases have far-d. In the meantime, however, the resales although not of very great extent show a decided advance in prices, albeit this is somewhat counteracted by

the continued fall in Exchange. The upward movement of Cotton has received a check at the last moment, but may be only a temporary reaction, as it was fully expected to reach seven pence. Without any very definite information on the subject it seems to be pretty freely admitted now that the crop has had a serious set back, and that the yield will probably be less than consumptive requirements, though that can easily be considerably curtailed by the rise in price. For months and months past the market here has not permitted of business being done on the basis of replacing cost, and now the divergent attitudes of the two most important factors, Exchange and the cost of the raw material, have widened the margin to a prohibitive extent. With the stocks here and supplies afloat, however, there is ample to meet the restricted trade, and it is just as well until the Chinese Government take the outstanding questions of Financial reform, and abolition of Trade taxation beyond what is legally leviable according to treaty, in an honest and straightforward manner, with more show of sincere determination to carry out conditions that have been promised, than so far has been the case. The loss of Revenue through curtailed importations would soon make itself felt, and at the same time obviate the necessity of Importers continuing to clothe China's millions at a dead loss to themselves. It was hoped that on the return of the special Commissioner, who was sent abroad to study the Financial systems of Foreign Countries, to China some energetic measures would be adopted towards reform in that direction, but the reports he has made seem to have been shelved, while the same haggling continues amongst the old, conservative Officials in looking as to whether the basis of the new coinage shall be a dollar or seven mace two condareens which is as far as they have got! Opposition is being pushed all over the Country to any enterprises for which concessions have been granted to Foreigners, and thus the opening up and development of the Country is being hampered and delayed. It is most discouraging to those who have sunk their Capital in Commercial pursuits here to find things constantly getting worse and no prospect whatsoever of their ever getting better. To turn to another of our erstwhile dependencies, Corea, events are taking place there in a stealthy manner which bid fair to completely denationalize that Empire in the nearer future, and put all the restrictions on trade with it that now pertain to Japan. This will be a serious blow to Manchester if Treaty rights are not strictly safeguarded. The advance in Cotton has quite stopped all business in staple goods with Manchester, but we understand indent orders are going through in Fancy makes. In Liverpool the spot price of Mid-American Cotton went up to 6.92d. "futures" being quoted 6.65d. for October/November option. To-day the spot quotation comes 6.85d., but Egyptian advances to 9d. Although Cotton has gone up to 12.58 cents. for August in New York quotations for goods have not advanced in proportion, for instance 3 yard are quoted 10s. 11d. and 3.25 yard 10s. 6d. though there is some irregularity. The export during April from New York to China of Cotton goods amounted to 16,786,348 yards valued at G. \$970,822, and appears to have been shipped in one bottom. That makes a total of 60,545,160 yards for the five months ending April. The exports from Manchester are keeping moderate, Plain Cottons figuring as 17,000,000 yards in the last fortnightly telegram. The high prices are greatly restricting the sales of Yarn, but there seems no inclination to lower prices. Clearances are falling off, which is only natural at the time of the year. Stocks.—We learn that the Returns of the Chamber of Commerce are nearly completed and will be published in time for our next. It will greatly assist the Secretary if those to whom lists have been sent and who do not hold stocks will notify him to that effect. Private business in English makes continues on a retail scale, though we did hear of one sale of 40 bales 8.4-lbs. Shirtings, which the Importer said was the first he had made of that make for months. The Auctions have, during the interval, shown almost an all round improvement, though scarcely commensurate with the fall in Exchange. The only weaknesses noticeable were in the prices for the better White Shirtings, and Grey T-Cloths. The Woollen goods have realised stronger prices. Turkey Reds are realising firmer prices at Auction, and we understand a fair line of old chops have been bought privately at a fair price under the threat that they were to be Auctioned. Fast Black Cotton Italians and Venetians have shown considerable strength, only here and there a Crop showing any weakness.



## YARN.

HONGKONG—Mr. P. Eduljee, in his Report dated 23rd July, state:—The feature of the fortnight has been a further advance in the prices of yarn and the bull element which is prevalent in the local market is strengthened by reports of an excited market in Bombay consequent on a short American Cotton Crop. Sales are comparatively small and values show an appreciation of \$1 to \$3 per bale. The enquiry has been general, but No. 20s, have been considerably dealt in participating largely in the advance and forming the bulk of the settlements. The last few days there has been very little doing as dealers are unwilling to follow holders in their demand for higher prices, and a temporary lull in for the moment being experienced. The market, however, may be said to close firmer all round and with better prospects of the coming rise crop the outlook appears, to be far from discouraging. Bombay continues strong, and it is stated that in view of the scarcity of the raw material and the congested state of the Piece-goods market most of the mills, are considering the advisability of adopting short time. Sales of the interval aggregate 7,464 bales arrivals amount to 6,800 bales, unsold stock estimated at 22,000 and uncleared yarn in second hands at about 28,000 bales. Local Manufacture:—Sales are reported of about 675 bales No. 10s. and 12s. at \$114 and \$118 respectively. Japanese Yarn:—Nothing doing. Raw Cotton.—The high prices ruling in the Home markets have entirely checked importations, and for the trifling lot of inferior descriptions remaining in godown no offer can be induced. Quotations are Indian \$27 to 32. Exchange on India has continued weak in sympathy with silver and closes to-day at Rs. 130½ for T/T and Rs. 131 for Post. On Shanghai 74½ and on Japan 84½. The undernoted business in imported and local spinings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 9th inst. viz:—Indian:—Market firm. Total sales about 3,000 bales at advance of half to one Tael Estimated stock about 35,030 bales. Japanese:—Continue to attract attention and sales reported are 1,500 bales on the basis of Tls. 101 to 111½ for No. 16s and Tls. 117 for No. 20s. Local:—In good enquiry, and sales of about 1,000 bales No. 16s at Tls. 100 to 105 are reported.

## HONGKONG PRICES CURRENT.

HONGKONG, 23rd July, 1909.

## COTTON PIECE GOODS—

|                                   |         |      |
|-----------------------------------|---------|------|
| Grey Shirtings—6lbs. .... piece   | \$1 95  | —    |
| 7 lbs. .... "                     | 2.30 to | 2.55 |
| 8.4 lbs. .... "                   | 3.05 to | 4.20 |
| 10 lbs. .... "                    | 4.20 to | 5.55 |
| White Shirtings—54/56 reed ..     | 2.50 to | 3.65 |
| 58/60 ..                          | 4.00 to | 5.60 |
| 64/66 ..                          | 6.00 to | 7.20 |
| Fine ..                           | 7.25 to | 9.75 |
| Book-folds ..                     | 6.25 to | 6.90 |
| Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...       | 0.75 to | 2.01 |
| T-Cloths—6 lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y .. | 2.10 to | 2.20 |
| 7 lbs. .... "                     | 2.25 to | 2.35 |
| 6 lbs. .... "Mexicans, ..         | —       | —    |
| 7 lbs. .... "                     | 2.70 to | 3.95 |
| 8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) ..         | 3.50 to | 4.25 |
| Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ } .. | 4.65 to | 6.05 |
| to 14 lbs. }                      |         |      |

## FANCY COTTONS—

|                                 |         |      |
|---------------------------------|---------|------|
| Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to } .. | 1.82 to | 5.10 |
| 6 lbs. piece }                  |         |      |
| Brocades—Dyed ..                | 0.11 to | 0.15 |
| Chinese—Assorted ..             | 0.08 to | 0.35 |
| Velvets—Black, 22 in., ..       | 0.28 to | 0.55 |
| Velveteens—18 in., ..           | 0.24 to | 0.28 |
| Handkerchiefs—Imitation } ..    | 0.50 to | 4.00 |
| Silk per dozen }                |         |      |

## WOOLLENS—

|                                   |         |      |
|-----------------------------------|---------|------|
| Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops ..   | 0.70 to | 2.00 |
| German, ..                        | 2.00    | —    |
| Habit, Medium & Broad Cloths, ..  | 1.25 to | 3.00 |
| Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-9 lbs. piece | 7.80 to | 9.40 |
| Assorted ..                       | 7.90 to | 9.40 |
| Camlets—Assorted ..               | —       | —    |

## WHEATEN FLOUR—

|                                 |          |       |
|---------------------------------|----------|-------|
| Lastings—30 yds. 31 inches } .. | 14.00 to | 21.00 |
| Assorted .. }                   |          |       |
| Orleans—Plain ..                | 9.00 to  | 12.00 |
| Blankets—8 to 12 .. lbs.        | 0.60 to  | 1.50  |

## RAW COTTON—

|                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bombay .....             | picul \$26.00 to \$30.00 |
| Bengal (New), Rangoon .. | 26.00 to 29.00           |
| and Dacca ..             | 26.00 to 30.00           |
| Shanghai and Japanese .. | 26.00 to 30.00           |
| Tungchow and Ningpo ..   | 26.00 to 30.00           |

## METALS—

|                                   |               |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Iron—Nail Rod .....               | picul \$ 4.05 |
| Square, Flat, Round Bar (Eng.) .. | 3.95          |
| Swedish Bar ..                    | 4.15          |
| Small Round Rod ..                | 4.50          |
| Hoop, ½ to 1½ in. ....            | 5.60          |
| Wire, 16/25 oz., ..               | 9.50          |
| Old Wire Rope ..                  | 3.00          |
| Lead—L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop .. | 9.60          |
| Australian ..                     | 9.50          |
| Yellow Metal—Muntz 14 28 oz. .... | 39.50         |
| Vivian's, 16/32 oz., ..           | 39.50         |
| Elliot's, 16/28 oz. ....          | 39.50         |
| Tin, ..                           | 87.00         |
| Tin-Plates, ..                    | box 7.40      |
| Steel ..                          | cwt. case —   |

## MISCELLANEOUS—

|                                 |                        |      |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|------|
| Quicksilver, .....              | picul 165.00           | —    |
| Window Glass, .....             | box                    | 5.00 |
| Kerosene Oil, .....             | case                   | —    |
| Saltpetre, No. 1 .....          | picul \$11.00 to 11.75 | —    |
| Do. No. 2 .....                 | 10.80 to 10.90         | —    |
| Do. No. 3 .....                 | 9.40 to 9.50           | —    |
| Dayton, per bag of 50 lbs. .... | gross \$2.68           | —    |
| Crescent ..                     | 2.55                   | —    |
| Orient ..                       | 2.42                   | —    |
| Choice ..                       | 2.75                   | —    |
| White Lily ..                   | 2.75                   | —    |
| White Fawn ..                   | 2.74                   | —    |
| Morjon ..                       | 2.74                   | —    |
| Cow ..                          | 2.74                   | —    |

## AMOY IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The Amoy Gazette and Shipping Report, of the 9th July, 1809, publishes the following principal goods passed through the Custom House.

## IMPORTS.

## Quantity

|                                   |        |       |
|-----------------------------------|--------|-------|
| Cotton Raw, Indian ..             | pls.   | —     |
| Cotton Raw, Native ..             | —      | —     |
| Cotton Raw, Yarn ..               | 2,097  | —     |
| Shirtings, Grey ..                | pcs.   | 3,432 |
| T-Cloths ..                       | 950    | —     |
| Shirtings, White ..               | 2,268  | —     |
| T. Red. Shirtings ..              | 200    | —     |
| Drills ..                         | —      | —     |
| Shirtings Dyed, Brocades ..       | 24     | —     |
| Shirtings Dyed ..                 | 8      | —     |
| Damasks ..                        | —      | —     |
| Camlets ..                        | 86     | —     |
| Lastings ..                       | 20     | —     |
| Spanish Stripes ..                | yds.   | 673   |
| Lustrees, Figure ..               | —      | —     |
| Lead, in pigo ..                  | pls.   | —     |
| Tin in slabs ..                   | 203    | —     |
| Iron, Nail rod ..                 | 47     | —     |
| Quicksilver ..                    | 11     | —     |
| Iron, Old ..                      | 48     | —     |
| Ironwire ..                       | 7      | —     |
| Rice ..                           | 24,214 | —     |
| Opium, Patna ..                   | 14     | —     |
| Opium, Benares ..                 | 136    | —     |
| Opium, Persian ..                 | 8      | —     |
| Opium, Malwa ..                   | 1      | —     |
| Opium, Szechuan ..                | 17     | —     |
| Opium, Yunnan ..                  | 11     | —     |
| Opium, Shansi ..                  | —      | —     |
| Sesamum Seed ..                   | —      | —     |
| Sapanwood ..                      | —      | —     |
| Sandalwood ..                     | 9      | —     |
| Rattans ..                        | 31     | —     |
| Wheat ..                          | 966    | —     |
| Flour ..                          | 3,451  | —     |
| Beans ..                          | 18,175 | —     |
| Beans and Peas ..                 | 24,986 | —     |
| Bicho de Mar ..                   | 72     | —     |
| Mata Tea ..                       | pcs.   | —     |
| Oil, Kerosine American ..         | galls. | —     |
| Oil, Kerosine American in bulk .. | —      | —     |
| Oil, Kerosine Borneo in bulk ..   | —      | —     |
| Oil, Kerosine Russian ..          | —      | —     |
| Oil, Kerosine Sumatra ..          | —      | —     |
| Oil, Kerosine Bulk ..             | —      | —     |
| Coal ..                           | 1,121  | —     |
| Tobacco Leaf ..                   | pls.   | 46    |
| Vernicelli ..                     | —      | 66    |

## EXPORTS

|                          |      |       |
|--------------------------|------|-------|
| Sugar, White ..          | pls. | 78    |
| Sugar, Brown ..          | —    | 6,390 |
| Sugar, Candy ..          | —    | 368   |
| Hemp Bags ..             | pos. | 1,000 |
| Hemp Sacking ..          | —    | 2,850 |
| Paper I Quality ..       | —    | 891   |
| Paper II Quality ..      | —    | 86    |
| Tobacco, Prepared ..     | —    | 215   |
| Kittysols (umbrellas) .. | pcs. | 750   |

## HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 14th June, 1909.

## Hongkong markets:—

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Apricot ..        | \$16 to 17   |
| Borax ..          | \$18 to 20   |
| Cassia ..         | \$22½ to 22½ |
| Cloves ..         | \$20 to 31   |
| Camphor ..        | \$84 to 88   |
| Cow Bezoar ..     | \$70 to 114  |
| Fennel Seed ..    | \$10         |
| Galangal ..       | \$2 to 4     |
| Grapes ..         | \$15 to 16   |
| Kismis ..         | \$15 to 17   |
| Glue ..           | \$26½        |
| Olibanum ..       | \$2½ to 16   |
| Oil Sandalwood .. | \$250 to 350 |
| „ Rosa ..         | \$70 to 90   |
| „ Cassia ..       | \$185        |
| Raisins ..        | \$12 to 13   |
| Senna Leaves ..   | \$8          |
| Sandalwood ..     | \$33 to 35   |
| Saltpetre ..      | \$10 to 11   |

## EXPORTS:—

## CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG 23rd July:—The above market is at a standstill, and prices remain as last quoted.

## MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Messrs Arnhold, Karberg & Co.'s Fortnightly Produce Circular, Dated Shanghai, 16th July, state:—Gallnuts.—Fair demand.—Few sellers. Cowhides.—Market closed. Feathers.—Small business in grey Feathers is being done. Cotton.—Market closed.—Crop prospects more favorable. Tallow.—A small business has been done. Wood Oil.—Market quiet. Sesamumseed.—No new business is reported. Strawbraid.—Unchanged; market getting somewhat weaker all round. Goatskin Rugs.—Have been in good demand. Wool.—Sheeps.—America is eager to buy.—No offers are forthcoming, fresh arrivals are not expected before the Autumn. Antimony.—Good demand.—Holders firm.

HANKOW, 14th July.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

|                                                    | Per picul  |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Cowhides, best selected ..                         | Tls. 37.50 |
| Do. seconds ..                                     | 33.00      |
| Buffalo hides, best selected ..                    | 22.00      |
| Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white colour, ..      | —          |
| Buffalo Horns, average 3 lbs. each ..              | —          |
| White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi ..        | 8.50       |
| White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu ..         | 8.00       |
| Green China Grass, Szechuen ..                     | —          |
| Jute ..                                            | —          |
| White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow ..                 | 11.00      |
| White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow and/or Macheng .. | 1.000      |
| White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu ..                  | —          |
| Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu ..                    | 9.50       |
| Animal Tallow ..                                   | 10.90      |
| Gallnuts, usual shape ..                           | 15.25      |
| Gallnuts, plum do. ..                              | 19.50      |
| Tobacco, Tungchow ..                               | —          |
| Tobacco, Wankong ..                                | —          |
| Black Bristles, Riflings ..                        | —          |
| Feathers, grey and/or white Wild Duck ..           | —          |
| Turmeric ..                                        | —          |
| Sesamum Seed ..                                    | —          |
| Sesamum Seed Oil ..                                | —          |
| Wood Oil ..                                        | 9.25       |
| Tea Oil ..                                         | —          |



Per P. & O. steamer *Simla*, sailed on 1st July, 1909:—For Antwerp—16 bales feather, 5 cases human hair. For Liverpool—66 bales hemp. For Marseilles—200 bales waste silk, 4 bales human hair, 5 cases curios. For London—2943 packages tea, 2439 packages fire crackers, 42 packages fire crackers, 150 bales hemp, 50 bales split bamboos, 20 cases bristles, 10 cases human hair, 4 cases silk, 8 curios, 2 cloth.

## FREIGHT.

Hankow, 14th July.—Per Conference Steamer—To London and Northern Continental ports 47/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre 47/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) General Cargo 32/- per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez), Tea 37/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (Overland) per carload; Tea G \$1.50 cents per lb gross less than carload Tea G \$1.75 cents per lb gross; plus river freight. To Shanghai:—Tea and General Cargo, Tls. 2.50 per ton, weight or measurement.

## HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 23rd July, 1909.—Business continues dull and we have nothing of any importance to report. Rates continue steady but with a slight inclination to weakness. Exchange on London closes at 1/8/15/16, and on Shanghai at 74½ T. T.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghais have ruled firmer and with an unsatisfied demand at 990 and 995 the rate rose to 1000, at which a fair number of shares changed hands in the latter part of the week. The latest London rate is £92.10, Nationals are enquired for at 55.

MARINE INSURANCE.—With the exception of small sales of Cantons at 195 and an improvement in North Chinas to 115 we have nothing to report under this heading.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Chinas continue with buyers at 116 but no shares are forthcoming except at an advance. Hongkongs have receded a little and have no buyers over 345.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have found buyers at 32½ and 33, closing with buyers at the former rate. Star Ferrys have been done at 26 for old and 15½ for new. Shells have ruled quieter with a London quotation of 69/3, and close at 70. Douglasses and Indo-Chinas continue neglected.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars after small sales at 137½ close with buyers at that and with sellers at 140. Luzons are enquired for but no shares seem to be available.

MINING.—We have nothing to report under this heading except a further fall in Langkats to 980.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have changed hands at 66 and 67, and close with sellers at the latter rate. Kowloon Wharfs have found buyers at the improved rate of 58. Shanghai Docks after ruling weak during the early part of the week have improved to 82 and Hongkew Wharfs after touching 145, close firmer at 150.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands after small sales at 108 close with sellers. Hotels have advanced to 773 for old shares and to 43 for new, the latter with sales. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos ruled firm during the early part of the week but close easier at 133½. On time some shares have changed hands at 141 for December. Hongkongs have been placed at 8½ the market closing with sellers. Other stocks under this heading call for no remarks.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Borneos have been placed at 13½ and 13½, Ices at the greatly improved rate of 180 and Cements at 8.80. Other stocks under this heading remain unchanged and without business.

## Quotations are as follows:—

| STOCKS                                | PAID UP  | QUOTATIONS                |
|---------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------|
| Banks—                                |          |                           |
| Hongkong & S'hai...                   | \$125    | \$1,000, buyers<br>£92.10 |
| National B. of China                  | 26       | \$55, buyers              |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A....              | 12/6d.   | \$101, buyers             |
| China-Borneo Co.....                  | \$12     | \$131, sellers            |
| China Light & P. Co....               | \$10     | \$1                       |
| China Provident .....                 | \$10     | \$9 CO                    |
| Cotton Mills—                         |          |                           |
| Ewo Cotton S. & W.                    | Tls. 50  | Tls. 133½                 |
| Hongkong C. S. Co.                    | \$10     | \$81, sales & sellers     |
| International .....                   | Tls. 75  | Tls. 92                   |
| Laou Kung Mow .....                   | Tls. 100 | Tls. 113                  |
| Soychee .....                         | Tls. 500 | Tls. 405                  |
| Dairy Farm Co.....                    | \$6      | \$16½                     |
| Docks & Wharves—                      |          |                           |
| H. & K. Wharf & G.                    | \$50     | \$58                      |
| H. & W. Dock .....                    | \$50     | \$67, sales               |
| New Amoy Dock .....                   | \$61     | \$9                       |
| Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd ..... | Tls. 100 | Tls. 82, sellers          |
| S'hai & H. Wharf....                  | Tls. 100 | Tls. 150                  |
| Fenwick & Co., Geo....                | \$25     | \$11, sellers             |
| G. Island Cement Co.                  | \$10     | \$8.90, sellers           |
| Hongkong & C. Gas....                 | \$10     | \$210, buyers             |
| Hongkong Electric....                 | \$10     | \$20½, buyers             |
| Hongkong Hotel Co. (                  | \$25     | \$73, (old) buy.          |
| Hongkong Ice Co.....                  | \$25     | \$43, buyers              |
| H'kong Rope M. Co....                 | \$10     | \$180, sales & buy.       |
| Insurances—                           |          |                           |
| Canton .....                          | \$50     | \$195, sales & sel.       |
| China Fire .....                      | \$25     | \$116, buyers             |
| China Traders .....                   | \$25     | \$88, buyers              |
| Hongkong Fire.....                    | \$50     | \$345, buyers             |
| North China .....                     | \$25     | Tls. 115, sal. & b.       |
| Union .....                           | \$100    | \$225, buyers             |
| Yangtze .....                         | \$60     | \$225                     |
| Land and Buildings—                   |          |                           |
| H'kong Land Invest.                   | \$100    | \$108, sale & sel.        |
| Humphrey's Estate                     | \$10     | \$9½, buyers              |
| Kowloon Land & B.                     | \$30     | \$30 sellers              |
| Shanghai Land.....                    | Tls. 50  | Tls. 118, x.d.            |
| West Point Building                   | \$50     | \$46½, sellers            |
| Mining—                               |          |                           |
| S. F. des C. du T'kin                 | Fr. 250  | \$625, buyers             |
| Raub .....                            | 18/10d.  | \$8½, sellers             |
| Peak Tramways Co., Ltd                | \$10     | \$14½, buyers             |
| Philippine Co., Ltd....               | \$1      | \$1½, sellers             |
| Refineries—                           |          |                           |
| China Sugar .....                     | \$100    | \$137½, sales & b.        |
| Luzon Sugar .....                     | \$100    | \$15, buyers              |
| Robinson Piano Co. ...                | \$50     | \$50, sellers             |
| Steamship Companies                   |          |                           |
| China and Manila....                  | \$25     | \$10, sellers             |
| Douglas Steamship                     | \$50     | \$36                      |
| H., Canton & M. ....                  | \$15     | \$32½, buyers             |
| Indo-China S. N. Co.                  | \$25     | \$44½, sellers            |
| Shell Transport Co.                   | \$21     | \$70½, buyers             |
| Star Ferry .....                      | \$10     | \$26, sales               |
| South China M. Post....               | \$5      | \$15½                     |
| Steam Laundry Co.....                 | \$25     | \$24, sellers             |
| Stores & Dispensaries—                |          |                           |
| Campbell, M. & Co....                 | \$10     | \$12                      |
| Wm. Powell, Ltd. ....                 | \$7      | \$4, seller               |
| Watkins, Ltd. ....                    | \$10     | \$4, buyers               |
| Watson & Co., A. S.                   | \$10     | \$8.60, sellers           |
| Weissmann, Ltd.....                   | \$100    | \$150, buyers             |
| United Asbestos .....                 | \$4      | \$13                      |
| Union Waterboat Co....                | \$10     | \$300                     |
|                                       | \$10     | \$11, sellers             |

## SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

16th July, 1909.

| COMPANY.                               | PAID UP       | QUOTATION.         |
|----------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Banks:—                                |               |                    |
| Hongkong & S'hai...                    | \$125         | \$1,010, sales     |
| National of China...                   | 26            | \$50, sales        |
| Russo-Chinese .....                    | R187½<br>T125 | Tls. 125           |
| Insurance:—                            |               |                    |
| Union Society C't m                    | \$100         | \$837½, sellers    |
| North-China .....                      | 25            | Tls. 112, buyers   |
| Yangtze Assocn. ...                    | \$60          | \$235, sellers     |
| Canton .....                           | \$50          | \$195, sellers     |
| Hongkong Fire.....                     | \$50          | \$347½, sales      |
| China Fire .....                       | \$20          | \$110, buyers      |
| Shipping:—                             |               |                    |
| Indo-China { pref. }                   | 25            | Tls. 50, sellers   |
| Shell Trans. { ord. }                  | 21            | 61s. 6d. x.d.      |
| & Trading { pref. }                    | 210           | \$29.10.0          |
| S'hai Tug & { ord. }                   | T50           | Tls. 51½           |
| Lighter { pref. }                      | T50           | Tls. 53, sellers   |
| Taku Tug & Lighter                     | T50           | Tls. 45, buyers    |
| Kochien Transport-<br>ation & Tow Boat | T50           | Tls. 47½, sales    |
| Docks & Wharves:—                      |               |                    |
| S'hai Dock & Erg...                    | T100          | Tls. 78½, sales.   |
| H. & W. Dock .....                     | \$50          | \$68, sellers      |
| S. & H'kew Wharf...                    | T100          | Tls. 152           |
| H. K'loon W. & G....                   | \$50          | \$56, buyers       |
| Yangtze .....                          | T100          | Tls. 205, sales    |
| Sugar Companies:—                      |               |                    |
| Perak Cultivation...                   | T50           | Tls. 255           |
| China Refining.....                    | \$100         | \$187½, buyers     |
| Mining:—                               |               |                    |
| Raub Australian ...                    | 21            | \$9, buyers        |
| Chinese Eng. & Min.                    | 21            | Tls. 18½, buyers   |
| Lands:—                                |               |                    |
| S'hai Investment...                    | T50           | Tls. 122, sellers  |
| H'kong Investment                      | \$100         | \$108, buyers      |
| Humphreys' Estate                      | \$10          | \$9½, buyers       |
| Wei-hai-wei .....                      | T20           | Tls. 9             |
| China .....                            | T50           | Tls. 50            |
| Anglo-French .....                     | T100          | Tls. 104, buyers   |
| Cotton:—                               |               |                    |
| Ewo .....                              | T50           | Tls. 136, buyers   |
| International .....                    | T75           | T. 91½, sellers    |
| Laou Kung Mow ...                      | T100          | Tls. 114, sellers  |
| Soy Chee .....                         | T500          | Tls. 405, buyers   |
| H. C.S.W.D.Co., Ltd.                   | T10           | Tls. 8½, buyers    |
| Industrial:—                           |               |                    |
| Shanghai Gas .....                     | T50           | Tls. 107½, buyers  |
| Major Brothers.....                    | T50           | Tls. 52½           |
| Shanghai Ice.....                      | T25           | Tls. 15            |
| China Flour Mill...                    | T50           | Tls. 41, buyers    |
| S'hai Pulp & Paper                     | T100          | Tls. 37½, sellers  |
| Green Is. Cement...                    | \$10          | \$9, sales         |
| Shanghai Cotton...                     | T50           | Tls. 65            |
| Maatschappij, &c.,<br>in Langkat.....  | Gs. 100       | Tls. 1,000,        |
| Shanghai-Sumatra                       | T20           | Tls. 170, sellers  |
| Tobacco .....                          | T6            | Tls. 14½, sales    |
| Dominion Rubbers...                    | \$20          | Tls. 416, sales    |
| S'hai Waterworks...                    | \$100         | \$75               |
| Anglo-Ger. Brewery                     | T50           | Tls. 20            |
| A. Butler Cement,                      | T50           | Tls. 180, sales    |
| Tile Works .....                       | T100          | Tls. 270, sellers  |
| Kalumpang Rubber                       | 21            | Tls. 16½, sellers  |
| S. R. ber Estates ...                  | 210           | Tls. 10            |
| T. R. & T. Estate Co.                  | 210           | Tls. 10            |
| Eastern Fibre .....                    | 210           | Tls. 10            |
| Shanghai Electric                      | 210           | Tls. 10            |
| Construction.....                      | 210           | Tls. 10            |
| Miscellaneous:—                        |               |                    |
| Hall & Holtz.....                      | \$20          | \$22, buyers       |
| A. Llewellyn .....                     | \$60          | \$65               |
| A. S. Watson & Co.                     | \$10          | \$8½, buyers       |
| Central Ordinary ...                   | \$15          | \$18, sellers      |
| Central Founders...                    | \$15          | \$400, buyers      |
| S. Moutrie & Co....                    | \$50          | \$42½              |
| Weeks & Co. ....                       | \$20          | \$26½, buyers      |
| Astor House Hotel                      | \$25          | \$18, sales        |
| Hongkong Hotel Co.                     | \$50          | \$71, sel. ex div. |
| Hotel des Colonies                     | T12.50        | Tls. 5½, sellers   |
| Tientsin Hotel .....                   | \$100         | Tls. 75, sales     |
| Lane, Crawford & Co.                   | \$100         | \$165              |
| Dunning & Co. ....                     | \$50          | \$35               |
| S'hai Horse Bazar...                   | T50           | Tls. 55, sales     |
| S'hai Mercury .....                    | T50           | Tls. 50            |
| S'hai Mutual Tele.                     | T50           | Tls. 63, sales     |
| China Im. & Ex.                        | T100          | Tls. 75            |
| Lumber .....                           | \$25          | \$21               |
| Shanghai Electric &<br>Asbestos .....  | \$25          | \$21               |
| Dallas Horse Re-<br>pository .....     | T50           | Tls. 25            |
| Printing Co.....                       | T50           | Tls. 50            |



Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s in their Share Report for the week ending July 18th, state:—The business for the week under review although it has been fairly varied in regard to the numbers of different stocks dealt in, has not been large in bulk. Banks—Shares have changed hands at \$1,010 ex. 73. Insurance—The only business reported is in Yangtzes at \$235. Shipping—No business reported excepting a small transaction in Preference Shanghai Tugs at Tls. 52. Docks and Wharves—Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co. Shares have been placed at Tls. 75 for September. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves. This market shows a considerable decline. It opened on the 8th instant with sales at Tls. 160, 160½ and 161 for September, on the 9th shares were placed at Tls. 160, 159½ and 159 for the same date. On the 10th for cash at Tls. 155 and for September at Tls. 158½ and Tls. 157. On the 12th at Tls. 156½ and Tls. 156. Sugars—No business reported. Lands—Shanghai Lands have been placed at Tls. 122. Industrial—In Cotton Stock there has been a fair business. Ewos opened on the 8th with sales at Tls. 134, 134½ and 135½ September, on the 14th at Tls. 134, 139 and 138½ September. The market closes with sales at Tls. 139. Soy Chees have been placed at Tls. 400, and Tls. 425 for cash. International Cottons at Tls. 94½ September. Laou Kung Mows have been placed at Tls. 117 for September. Tls. 114 for cash and Tls. 116 September. Rubber Stocks. A fair number of shares changed hands in the different stocks. Dominions at Tls. 9½, Tls. 10, Tls. 10½ and Tls. 10½. Tebongs at Tls. 15½, 15½, Tls. 16 cash, Tls. 16 and Tls. 16.10 for September and on the 14th at Tls. 16½ for cash. The market closed yesterday with a transaction for cash at Tls. 16½. A forced sale of Senawang took place at Tls. 250. Buyers immediately offered Tls. 260, Tls. 265½, and the last business done is at Tls. 270 for cash. Shanghai Sunatras have been placed at Tls. 175 and Tls. 178 for September. The market is easy. Maatschappij &c. in Langkats. Prices have continued to fall steadily during the week. On the 8th the market opened with sales for cash at Tls. 1,040, and for September at Tls. 1,070, 1,060 and 1,070. On the 9th at Tls. 1,090 and 1,085 for September. On the 10th at Tls. 1,085 for September and 1,055 cash. On the 12th at Tls. 1,080 September. On the 13th at Tls. 1,050 September and on the 14th at Tls. 1,040 and Tls. 1,025 for September. Yesterday the market closed with sales at Tls. 1,030, and Tls. 1,025 for September. Miscellaneous—Astor House Hotel shares have been placed at \$18. Telephones at Tls. 62½ and Tls. 63. Horse Bazaars at Tls. 55. Major Bros. at Tls. 52½. Debentures—Astor Debentures have been placed at Tls. 104. Shanghai Municipal 6 per cent. Debentures at Tls. 104½.

## EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, July 23rd.

|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| ON LONDON.—                        |            |
| Telegraphic Transfer               | 1/8 1/8    |
| Bank Bills, on demand              | 1/8 1/8    |
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight      | 1/8 1/8    |
| Bank Bills at 4 months' sight      | 1/9        |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight        | 1/9 1/8    |
| Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight | 1/9 1/8    |
| ON PARIS.—                         |            |
| Bank Bills, on demand              | 219        |
| Credits 4 months' sight            | 222 1/2    |
| ON GERMANY.—                       |            |
| On demand                          | 177 1/2    |
| ON NEW YORK.—                      |            |
| Bank Bills, on demand              | 42 1/2     |
| Credits, 60 days' sight            | 43 1/2     |
| ON BOMBAY.—                        |            |
| Telegraphic Transfer               | 130 1/2    |
| Bank, on demand                    | 131        |
| ON CALCUTTA.—                      |            |
| Telegraphic Transfer               | 130 1/2    |
| Bank on demand                     | 131        |
| ON SHANGHAI.—                      |            |
| Bank, at sight                     | 74 1/2     |
| Private, 30 days' sight            | 75 1/2     |
| ON YOKOHAMA.—                      |            |
| On demand                          | 84 1/2     |
| ON MANILA.—                        |            |
| On demand                          | 85 1/2     |
| ON SINGAPORE.—                     |            |
| On demand                          | 74 1/2     |
| ON BATAVIA.—                       |            |
| On demand                          | 104 1/2    |
| ON HAIPHONG.—On demand             |            |
| ON SAIGON.—On demand               | 9 p.c. pm. |
| ON BANGKOK.—On demand              |            |
| ON SINGAPORE.—On demand            | 86 1/2     |
| FOREIGN, Bank's Buying Rate        | \$11.45    |
| GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per tael       | \$59.60    |
| SILVER per 100                     | 23 1/2     |

## TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 23rd July.—Business continues dull, with little enquiry for tonnage. From Saigon to Hongkong, small lots offering at 11 cents per picul; to Philippines, 21 cents last; to North Coast Java, 20 cents. From North Coast Java to this, 22½ cents. From Newchwang to Canton, 24½ cents last. Coal freights are slightly weaker. From South Japan coal port to Hongkong 2.00/2.10 per ton according to size and dates; to Singapore, \$2.75; Canton, \$2.40. From Haiphong to Canton, \$1.85. Time charters. The *Solstal* has been taken up for cattle trade between Pheumpen (Indo China) and Manila.

## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

|                                               |                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| July:—                                        |                                               |
| 16. Banri Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.         | 16. Fitzpatrick, British str., from Moji.     |
| 16. Haldis, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.     | 16. Merapi, Dutch str., from Singapore.       |
| 17. Achilles, British str., from Liverpool.   | 17. Cheongshing, British str., from Tientsin. |
| 17. Clara Jebson, Ger. str., from Haiphong.   | 17. Fausang, British str., from Moji.         |
| 17. Kiang Ching, Chi. str., from Chinkiang.   | 17. Wongkoi, German str., from Bangkok.       |
| 18. Armand Behic, Fr. str., from Shanghai.    | 18. Benvorlich, British str., from Moji.      |
| 18. Bujun Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.       | 18. Haimun, British str., from Swatow.        |
| 18. Haiyang, British str., from Coast Ports.  | 18. Laertes, British str., from Saigon.       |
| 18. Luchow, British str., from Newchwang.     | 18. Peleus, British str., from Shanghai.      |
| 18. Sungkiang, British str., from Cebu.       | 18. Yingchow, British str., from Shanghai.    |
| 19. Amiral Fourichon, Fr. str., from S'pore.  | 19. Carmarthenshire, Brit. str., from London. |
| 19. Eastern, British str., from Kobe.         | 19. Ernest Simons, Fr. str., from Marseilles. |
| 19. Fri, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.       | 19. Kawachi Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.   |
| 19. Loongsang, British str., from Manila.     | 19. Mandasan Maru, Jap. str., from Miike.     |
| 19. Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.      | 19. Rubi, British str., from Manila.          |
| 19. Saxonia, German str., from Hamburg.       | 20. Beneluch, British str., from London.      |
| 20. Catherine Apar, Br. str., from Calcutta.  | 20. Istria, German str., from Tsingtau.       |
| 20. Longships, British str., from Batavia.    | 20. Ningpo, British str., from Chinkiang.     |
| 20. Pongtong, German str., from Bangkok.      | 20. Singan, British str., from Haiphong.      |
| 21. Brasilia, German str., from Foochow.      | 21. C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.  |
| 21. Chenan, British str., from Shanghai.      | 21. Clam, British str., from Shanghai.        |
| 21. Daijin Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.      | 21. Delhi, British str., from Bombay.         |
| 21. Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports. | 21. Inaba Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.    |
| 21. Kiang Ping, Chi. str., from Chinkiang.    | 21. Soshu Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.       |
| 22. Helene, German str., from Swatow.         | 22. Nanshan, American str., from Cavite.      |
| July:—                                        |                                               |
| 17. Migo, German str., for Tsingtau.          | 17. Anhui, British str., for Shanghai.        |
| 17. Bombay Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.     | 17. Choising, German str., for Amoy.          |
| 17. Devawongse, German str., for Swatow.      | 17. Fudo Maru, Japanese str., for Canton.     |
| 17. Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.      | 17. Hanoi, French str., for Q. Chow Wan.      |
| 17. Johanne, German str., for Pakhoi.         | 17. Kiev, Russian str., for Shanghai.         |
| 17. Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.     | 17. Nanchang, British str., for Nanchang.     |
| 17. Siberia, American str., for Keelung.      | 17. St. Patrick, British str., for Singapore. |
| 17. Syria, British str., for Shanghai.        | 17. Yuensang, British str., for Manila.       |
| 17. Zafiro, British str., for Manila.         | 18. Bushu Maru, Jap. str., for Wakamatsu.     |
| 18. Childar, Norwegian str., for Swatow.      | 18. Daigi Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.        |
| 18. Helene, German str., for Swatow.          | 18. Hopsang, British str., for Singapore.     |
| 18. Knivsberg, German str., for Hoihow.       | 18. Nanshan, British str., for Hongay.        |
| 18. Silesia, Austrian str., for Shanghai.     |                                               |

18, Tomoye Maru, Jap. str., for Chimanpo.  
 18, Victoria, Swedish str., for Haiphong.  
 19, Ernest Simons, Fr. str., for Shanghai.  
 19, Linan, British str., for Shanghai.  
 19, Taiyuan, British str., for Sydney.  
 20, Achilles, British str., for Shanghai.  
 20, Aki Maru, Japanese str., for Keelung.  
 20, Armand Behic, Fr. str., for Europe, &c.  
 20, Atlantis, American str., for Manila.  
 20, Dagny, Norwegian str., for Tsingtau.  
 20, Germania, German str., for Hongay.  
 20, Haiyang, British str., for Swatow.  
 20, Japan, British str., for Singapore.  
 20, Mathilde, German str., for Swatow.  
 20, Peleus, British str., for Singapore.  
 20, Signal, German str., for Hoihow.  
 20, Yedo Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.  
 21, Amiral Fourichon, Fr. str., for Shanghai.  
 21, Gregory Apar, Brit. str., for Shanghai.  
 21, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.  
 21, Hangsang, British str., for Swatow.  
 21, Kawachi Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.  
 21, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
 21, Solstad, Norwegian str., for Saigon.  
 21, Taikoson Maru, Japanese str., for Miike.  
 21, Tean, British str., for Manila.  
 22, Banri Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.  
 22, Beneluch, British str., for Nagasaki.  
 22, Bourbon, French str., for Saigon.  
 22, Brasilia, German str., for Singapore.  
 22, Bujun Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.  
 22, Carmarthenshire, Brit. str., for Shanghai.  
 22, Chinhua, British str., for Shanghai.  
 22, Delhi, British str., for Shanghai.  
 22, Eastern, British str., for Timor.  
 22, Haiphong, French str., for Saigon.  
 22, Istria, German str., for Singapore.  
 22, Longships, British str., for Shanghai.  
 22, Saxonia, German str., for Shanghai.  
 22, Wakamatsu Maru, Jap. str., for Miike.

PASSENGERS.  
ARRIVED.

Per *Inaba Maru*, from Singapore, Mr A. E. Green.  
 Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Miss Medland and Mr Woodruff.  
 Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Captain R. Kernan, Rev. A. Dercusue, Messrs W. B. Clarke, A. Kempf, B. Whiston and Y. Yuada.  
 Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mr and Mrs Brizon, Messrs Kawada, C. Graves, J. Wright, M. Sewex, K. West, H. B. Hickman, J. Behr and P. D. Schultz.  
 Per *Ernest Simons*, for Hongkong, from Singapore, Mr and Mrs J. Barker, and Mr Aldullah Hassan; from Saigon, Messrs Lhosse, Ohmi, Schmendie and Shemis.  
 Per *Armand Behic*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Miss L. Philipps; from Kobe, Mr Puscio; from Shanghai, Mrs J. G. Boyes, Lt. T. H. Whyte and Mr L. A. Lusseriff.  
 Per *Delhi*, for Hongkong, from Bombay, Mr Kouyoumyian; from Singapore, Mrs J. Ginkel, Misses Von Rossum and M. Nazareth, Major H. Phillips, Sister G. Signeiro and Mr H. Scott Young; for Shanghai, from London, Messrs R. Stephen and J. Naylor; from Singapore, Mrs K. Pravite; from Colombo, for Kobe, Mr A. B. Strange.

## DEPARTED.

Per *Eastern*, for Timor, &c., Mr and Mrs Alley, Mr and Mrs G. B. Darker, Mr and Mrs L. H. Drakeford and infant, Mr and Mrs W. Y. Lee and 2 infants, Mr and Miss Taylor, Mrs O. Hughes and 2 children, Mrs G. Morgan, Mrs G. Morse and infant, Misses A. P. Y. Lee, A. Miller and Sandys, Dr. E. T. Tuckey, Messrs Alley, Jr., J. K. M. Lee, J. Lyons, H. L. Pang, O. D. Murphine and A. Wilkins.  
 Per *Armand Behic*, for Marseilles, &c., Mr and Mrs W. Baldwin, Mrs Menno, Mrs Perrin, Mrs Jourdan, Mrs Raymonde, Mrs Kuroi Djol, Mrs Ditsu Taka, Miss L. Philipps, Lt. J. H. Whyte, Rev. Fr. Derume, Messrs Banguigant, M. R. Bilimoria, N. Fasciolis, A. M. Spencer, F. A. Dubois, Sobert, Bernard, Nayl, J. M. Felia, L. Popp, J. C. J. Corre, L. A. D. Chacaud, Eansiede, M. Brusa, Girardat, Auderan, Pelletton, Michimatsu, Le Verrin, Pisco, J. G. Boyes, Lussac, Ditsu Bulu, P. Gabin, Frantz, Daget and G. Antoni.

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